A COUPLE'S PROCESS
USA
INDIGO BLUE LEGEND
WAKI YAMATO

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Chapter-1:-1970

SEPTEMBER, 1970
WELL, HERE ARE THE MAPS AND PRINTS
STAFF ROOM
AH! NAKAAKI, I'LL LEAVE THE MATTER OF THE TRANSFER STUDENT IN YOUR HANDS
OK.
ARGH-! WHAT'S WITH THIS MOUNTAIN OF PRINTS!
IT'S THE LIST OF REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ENTRANCE EXAMINATION.
AH! WAIT A MOMENT, KISHIDA...

ARE YOU SURE YOU HAVE NATURALLY CURLY HAIR?
OF COURSE IS SOMETHING WRONG?
NO... IN THAT CASE, IT'S OK
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?
BE FRANK
LET ME PUT IT THIS WAY
IF YOU WERE A MALE STUDENT, I WOULD SHAVE YOUR HEAD AND MARK A CROSS ON IT WITH RED CHALK
DON'T...! KYOUKO!
MOREOVER, WHAT'S WITH THAT SKIRT!
AHHHH-! HOW SCARY!
A GIRL WITH A SHAVED HEAD!
KYOUKO!
IT'S THE SCHOOL'S FAULT..
BUT THE RULES ARE SO RIDICULOUS!
THINK FOR A MOMENT, OTHER THAN THIS SCHOOL WITH UNDER 2000 STUDENTS... TELL ME A PLACE WHERE IT'S FORBIDDEN TO HAVE ONE'S HAIR PERMED.
OR WHERE THEY MAKE A FUSS OVER SKIRT LENGTH...

I HAVE A FRIEND WHO GOES TO AN ALL-GIRL'S SCHOOL...
AND EVEN SHE WAS SURPRISED WHEN I TOLD HER THAT IF WE HAVE CURLY HAIR, WE JUST ABOUT HAVE TO CERTIFY IT'S NATURALLY THAT WAY
THEN IS YOURS REALLY NATURALLY CURLY?
NO WAY
.....
ANYWAY, THIS IS SO STUPID THEIR RULES ARE TOO STRICT
THEY SHOULD SPEND THAT ENERGY TO PREVENT VIOLENCE IN SCHOOL.
WE COULD MAKE A SURPRISE ATTACK ON THE TEACHER AT THE GRADUATION CEREMONY!
NOTHING CAN BE DONE HE'S ONLY DOING HIS JOB
GETTING RID OF THOSE RULES WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE
MY, MY-
KEIKO-SAN, YOU ARE SO COMPLACENT

QZOD QZHD
AAAH-!
QZOD QZHD
YOU ARE HOPELESS!
OF COURSE IT IS...
STUDYING
IT'S JUST THAT A PERM IS NOT THAT IMPORTANT OF A MATTER
WHEN WE GRADUATE, WE WILL HAVE MUCH MORE IMPORTANT MATTERS
AND WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER AN IMPORTANT MATTER, KEIKO-SAN?
TRY YOUR BEST!
YOU'D BETTER RUN!
OOH! IT'S THE CLASS BELL!
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU LOST IT...
WHAT? YOU DON'T HAVE A STUDENT NOTEBOOK?
TELL ME WHICH YEAR AND WHICH CLASS YOU ARE IN
WHO KNOWS...
HERE IT IS YOUR STUDENT NOTEBOOK.
OK

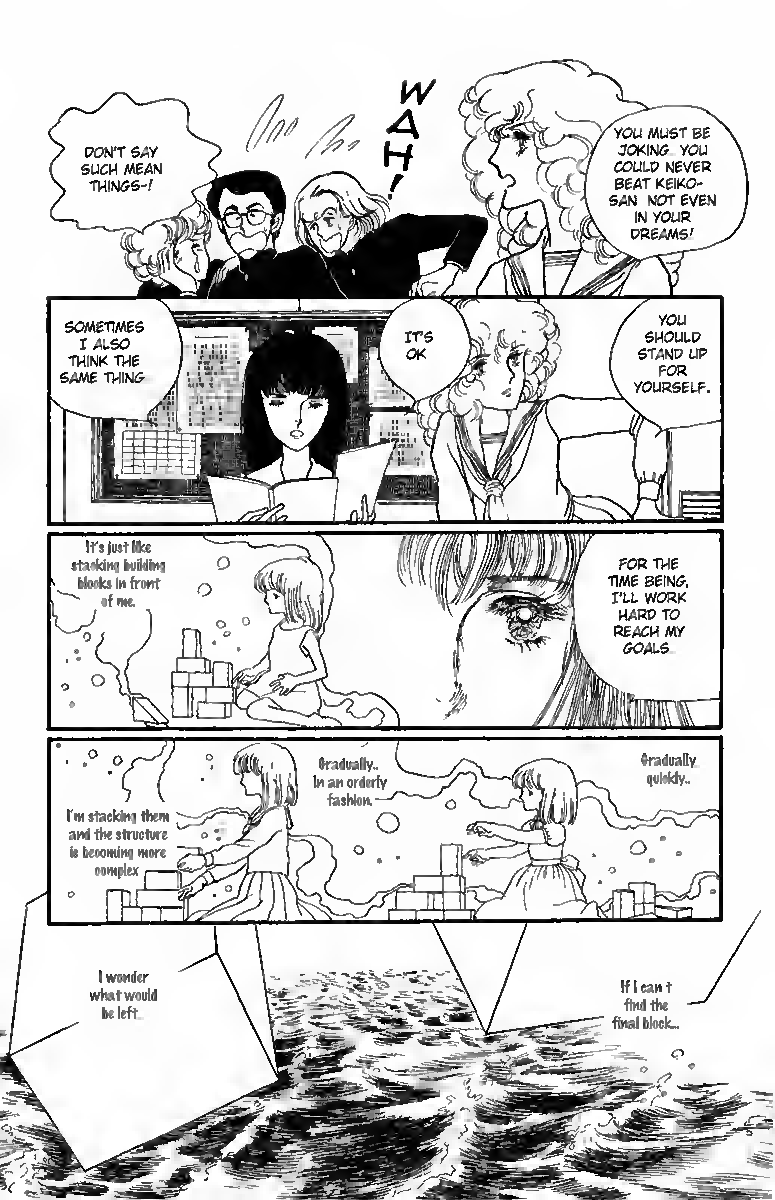
EH?
WHEN IT GROWS PAST YOUR SHOULDER, YOU HAVE TO TIE IT BACK. IT'S THE SAME IN EVERY SCHOOL, ISN'T IT?
WHAT?
TEACHER! THIS GUY IS MAKING FUN OF ME!
HEY, GIVE HIM A PROPER REPLY.
ALSO, WHAT'S WITH THAT HAIR?
AHH! THAT'S SEXUAL DISCRIMI-NATION
STUPID! THAT ONLY APPLIES TO FEMALE STUDENTS!
WHAT?
COULD YOU BE MIMASAKA KOUSUKE-KUN?
EXCUSE ME

EH..?
HI ! KEIKO-SAN!
How could he..
Know my name..!
THANKS.
WHEW, I'M SAVED!
THIS WOULD NEVER HAVE HAPPENED IF YOU HAD JUST SAID FROM THE START THAT YOU ARE A TRANSFER STUDENT.
SINCE YOU ARE A CLASS COMMITTEE MEMBER, I LEAVE THIS MATTER IN YOUR HANDS
YES
What a thick head
OH... I SEE.
SO YOU ARE IN NAKAAKI'S CLASS
YES...
PAY ATTENTION! I WON'T GIVE YOU ANOTHER TOUR.
HERE ARE LABORA-TORIES I AND II.
AND OVER THERE IS THE MUSIC CLASSROOM

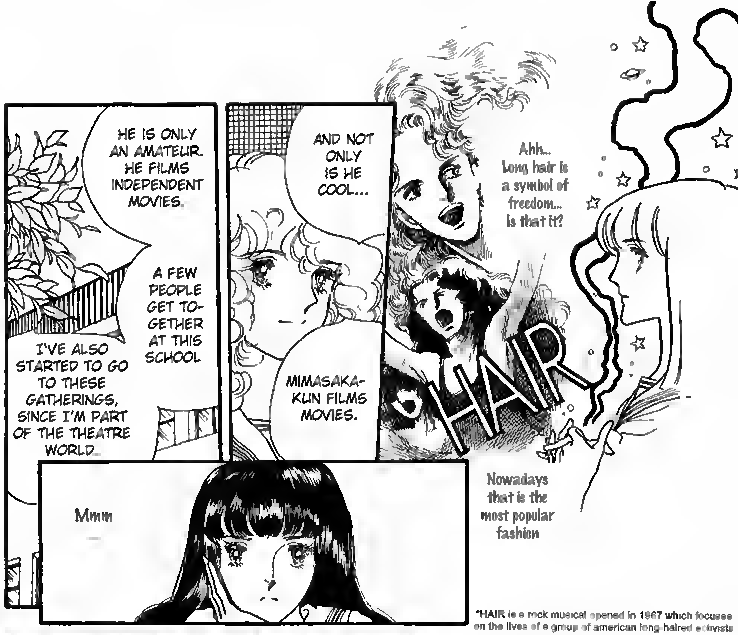
THERE IS... NO PARTICULAR REASON.
WAS YOUR FATHER TRANSFERRED?
EH...?
AH... ARE YOU ASKING WHY I TRANSFERRED?
THE SEMESTER IS NEARLY OVER.
ALL SCHOOLS LOOK THE SAME
A ROUGH IDEA IS FINE
I'M ONLY RESPONSIBLE FOR GUIDING YOU
EH?
MIMASAKA-KUN, HOW DID YOU KNOW MY NAME?
AH... BY THE WAY...
I HAVE A SORT OF TALENT FOR GUESSING GIRL'S NAMES
LIKE THE YUJIKO TYPE, THE HIROMI TYPE
EH?
BEFORE... YOU CALLED ME KEIKO...
I GUESSED CORRECTLY?

MAY I ASK YOU SOMETHING? WHAT KIND OF TYPE IS THAT?
THE MOMENT I SAW YOU, I KNEW YOU WERE THE KEIKO TYPE.
REALLY?
BUT NO KIDDING, I GUESSED IT RIGHT?
WELL, I GUESS YOU COULD CALL THEM THE TYPE WHO GOES ON THE DEFENSIVE.
OH! WHAT A BEAUTY!
HEY, COULD YOUR NAME POSSIBLY BE KYOUKO-SAN?
JUST AS I THOUGHT!
What a frivolous boy!
YES... THAT'S KYOUKO.
REALLY...? SO HER NAME IS KYOUKO-SAN?
HEY! SHE WAS IN THE SAME CLASS AS US, RIGHT?
What's the "Keiko type"?
It's as though he saw right through me.

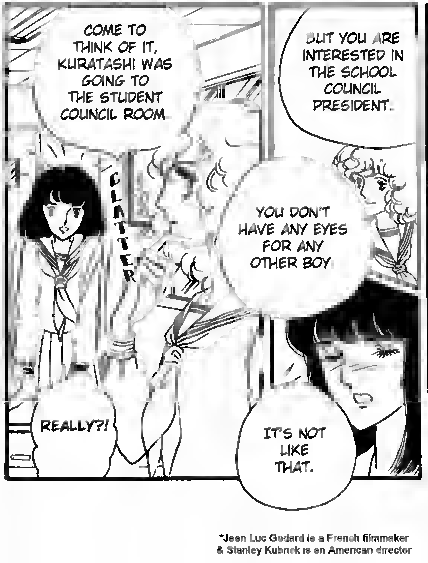
We won't have anything to do with each other
It doesn't matter. Once I finish guiding him, my responsibility to him as a class committee member will be over
What a moron!
But it would be helpful to know it, Keiko-san.
ERM... IS THE BOYS' BATHROOM ALSO A PLACE TO SMOKE IN SECRET...?
WHAT DO YOU WANT?! THERE'S NO MORE REASONG FOR US TO TALK TO EACH OTHER!
KEIKO-SAN, KEIKO-SAN!
I'M HEART-BROKEN
AAAH-! NAKAAKI IS AT THE TOP AGAIN
SCHOOL RANKING
#1 Nakaaki Koizaki
THIRD MOCK EXAM
小関あき子
永沢京子
8 西尚子
7 伊藤裕
6 小野弥介
5 横村さとり
4 谷口恵美子
3 小園恵美子
2 永沢京子
1 仲秋桂子
第三回模試順位表
PLEASE-! GIVE ME YOUR SPOT AT THE TOP-!
BY THE TIME WE TAKE THE NATIONAL EXAMS, SHE WILL BE A BRIDE
AHAH
MOMO

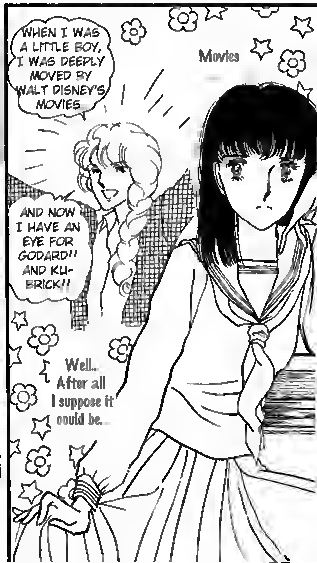

DON'T SAY SUCH MEAN THINGS~!
WAH!
YOU MUST BE JOKING. YOU COULD NEVER BEAT KEIKO-SAN NOT EVEN IN YOUR DREAMS!
SOMETIMES I ALSO THINK THE SAME THING
IT'S OK
YOU SHOULD STAND UP FOR YOURSELF.
It's just like stacking building blocks in front of me.
FOR THE TIME BEING, I'LL WORK HARD TO REACH MY GOALS.
I'm stacking them and the structure is becoming more complex.
Gradually.. in an orderly fashion.
Gradually quickly..
I wonder what would be left..
If I can't find the final block...

Me too
Those two
Before I even know it they were getting more and more friendly with each other
HI! HOW DID YOU DO?
HORRIBLE-
I ADMIRE THAT YOU STILL PLAY WITH BUILDING BLOCKS TO THIS DAY, BUT IN MY CASE
I HAVE ALWAYS GOTTEN BAD GRADES
I PROMISED I'D GO ON A DATE WITH HIM.
HA HA HA!
DO AS YOU LIKE BUT IS HE YOUR TYPE, KYOUKO-SAN?
OH, I WON'T THROW AWAY THIS CHANCE
HE LETS HIS HAIR GROW BECAUSE HE IS A REBEL
HE WON'T BE TRAPPED BY RULES HE HAS A NEW STYLE
HE IS UNBEARABLY STUBBORN


HE IS ONLY AN AMATEUR. HE FILMS INDEPENDENT MOVIES.
A FEW PEOPLE GET TOGETHER AT THIS SCHOOL
I'VE ALSO STARTED TO GO TO THESE GATHERINGS, SINCE I'M PART OF THE THEATRE WORLD.
AND NOT ONLY IS HE COOL....
MIMASAKA-KUN FILMS MOVIES.
Ahh.. Long hair is a symbol of freedom... is that it?
HAIR
Nowadays that is the most popular fashion
Mmm

*HAIR is a rock musical opened in 1967 which focuses on the lives of a group of american long-haired activists


COME TO THINK OF IT, KURATASHI WAS GOING TO THE STUDENT COUNCIL ROOM.
BUT YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THE SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT.
CLATTER
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY EYES FOR ANY OTHER BOY
REALLY?!
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT.


Movies
WHEN I WAS A LITTLE BOY, I WAS DEEPLY MOVED BY WALT DISNEY'S MOVIES.
AND NOW I HAVE AN EYE FOR GODARD*! AND KUBRICK*!
Well.. After all I suppose it could be...

*Jean Luc Godard is a French filmmaker
& Stanley Kubrick is an American director

ACT COOL!
GO GO GO
She's interested in the student council president.
Kurata Takashi
The student council president. He is one year older than me.
He is popular with girls.
He is handsome.
And very gentle.
It's not a bad feeling at all meeting him with all that on my mind
HI!
KURATA-SAN.
IT'S STRANGE, ISN'T IT? YOU HAVEN'T COME HERE FOR A LONG TIME
THE CULTURE FESTIVAL WILL BE MY LAST ASSIGNMENT

I ALSO AIM TO GO TO THE SAME UNIVERSITY AS YOU
I DON'T HAVE THAT SAME CONFIDENCE
YOU WILL BE TAKING THE EXAMINATION SOON, RIGHT...?
I THINK EVERYTHING WILL BE ALL RIGHT, JUST BECAUSE IT'S YOU
BY THE WAY... I THINK A STUDENT CALLED MIMASAKA IS IN YOUR CLASS NOW...
HOW IS HE BEHAVING?
Everything is calming down after all...
I THINK EVERYTHING WILL BE ALL RIGHT, JUST BECAUSE IT'S YOU.
GOOD LUCK!
EH?
AH!
DON'T JOKE WITH ME!
We are growing
... MIMASAKA? DO YOU MEAN KOUSUKE-KUN? WHAT KIND OF BEHAVIOUR DO YOU...
HE SHOULD BE CAREFUL OF THE TEACHERS

HE...
WAS INVOLVED IN AN ATTEMPT TO BOYCOTT THE GRADUATION CEREMONY AT HIS LAST SCHOOL. THAT'S WHY HE WAS EXPELLED.

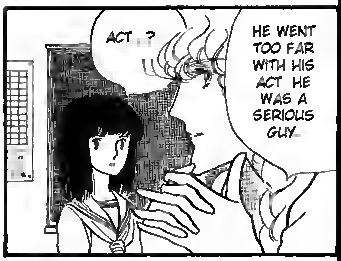
Mimasaka Kousuke is...
An activist?

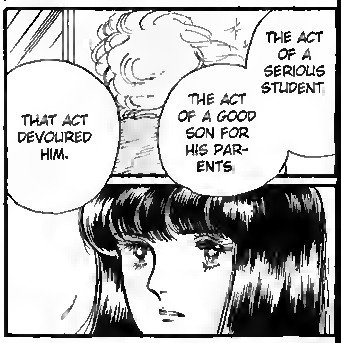
ERM... YOU MUST BE MISTAKEN, RIGHT?
THAT MORON CAN'T BE...
AH...
NO!

NO... IF YOU ARE LIKE THAT...
THEN THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY.
KURATA-SAN AND NAKAAKI-SAN...
THEY MAKE SUCH A GOOD COUPLE, RIGHT? THEY'RE BOTH TALL.
It seems some people in my class do things...
STRAWBE S
Like reading newspa-pers...
But I understand that feeling...
Some times...

Sometimes I really
Felt like breaking apart
I wonder if he... Feels the same way
HOP
AH..!
CLATTER
Long hair
A flag of free dom
Flying away

TAP
TAP TAP
STUPID!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU ARE GOING TO FALL!
AH...
AT MY LAST SCHOOL, THERE WERE TERRIBLE EXAMS.
THERE WAS A LOT OF UNREST, AND STRANGE THINGS STARTED TO HAPPEN
THE SNOW WAS PILING UP, AND IT WAS TRENDY TO JUMP INTO IT FROM THE SECOND FLOOR WINDOW.
I WONDER HOW MANY PEOPLE WERE EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED BY THAT.
I'M NOT GOING TO JUMP
YOU DON'T HAVE TO OVERREACT.
SO YOU... WENT INTO ACTION?


ACT...?
HE WENT TOO FAR WITH HIS ACT HE WAS A SERIOUS GUY.

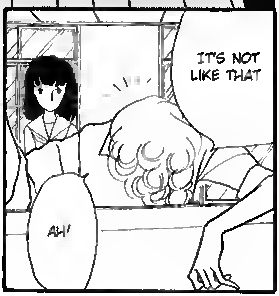

THE ACT OF A SERIOUS STUDENT
THE ACT OF A GOOD SON FOR HIS PARENTS
THAT ACT DEVOURED HIM.

DO I... SEEM AS THOUGH I AM BEING DEVOURED BY AN ACT LIKE THAT?

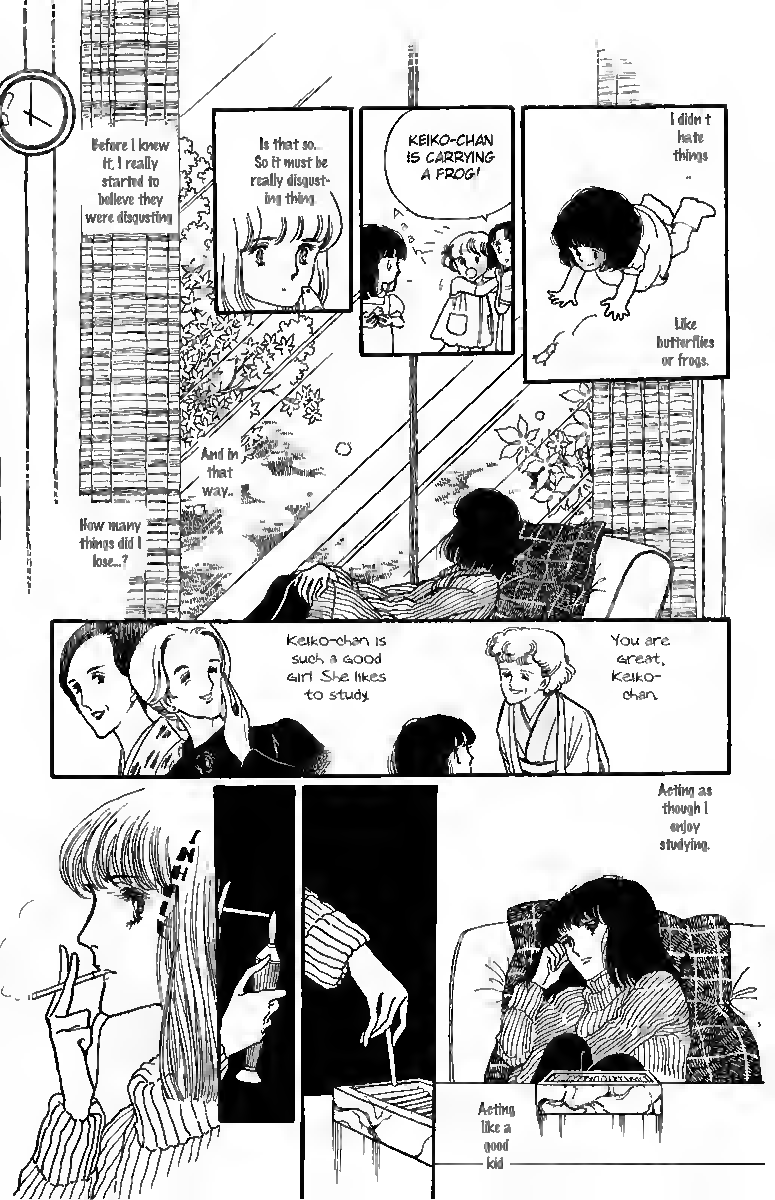
MY FRIEND...
JUMPED FROM THE FOURTH FLOOR IN THE SUMMER TIME.

GIVE ME YOUR HAND

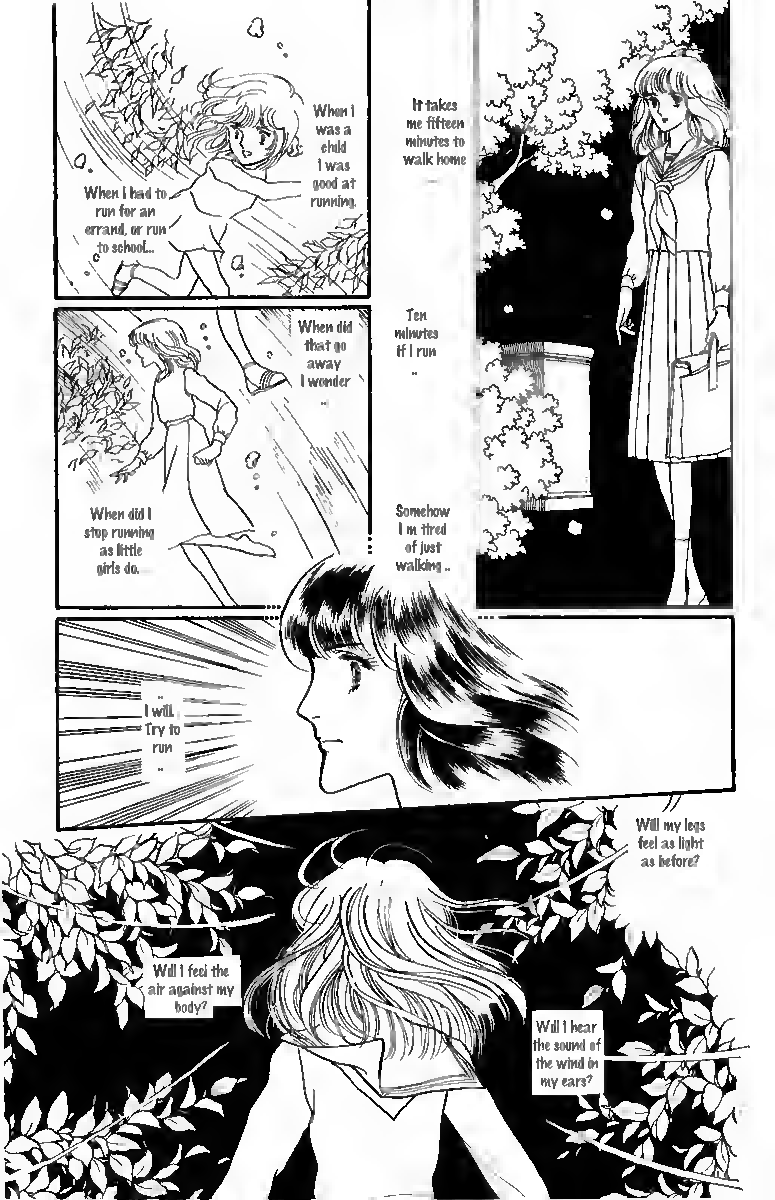
I FOUND SOME-THING GOOD
WHAT IS IT?

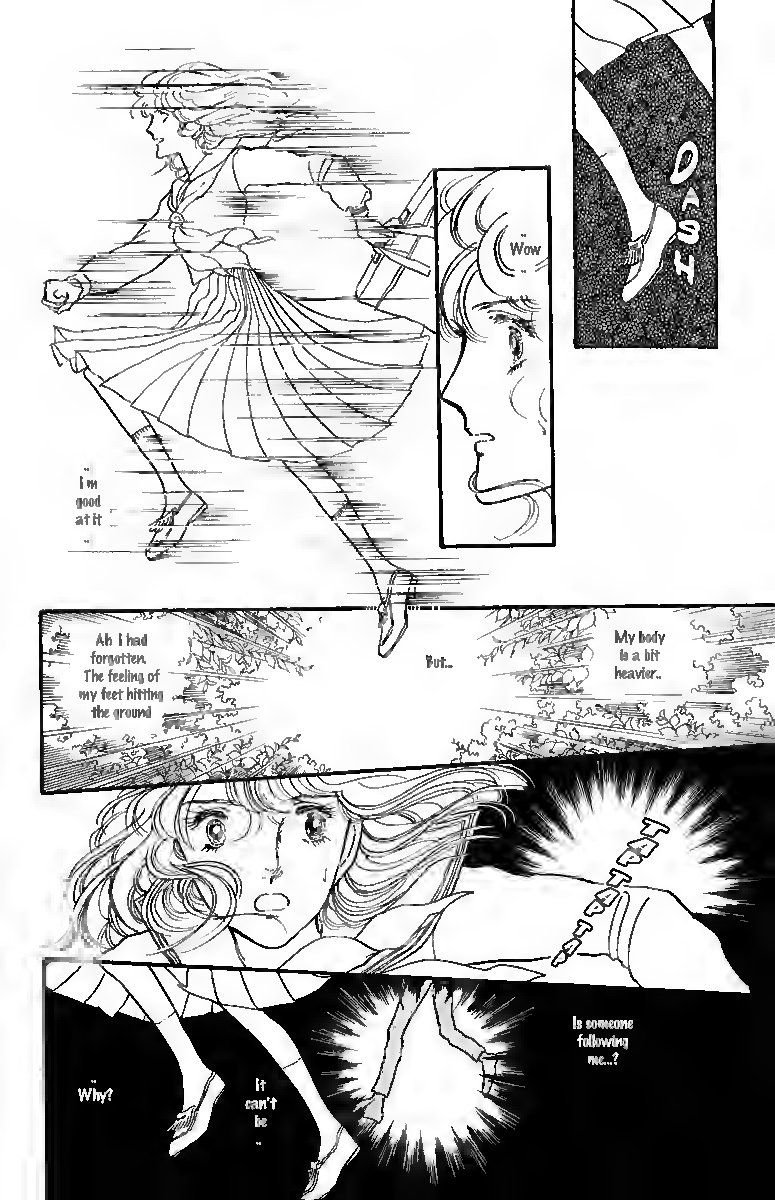

IT'S NOT LIKE THAT
AH!

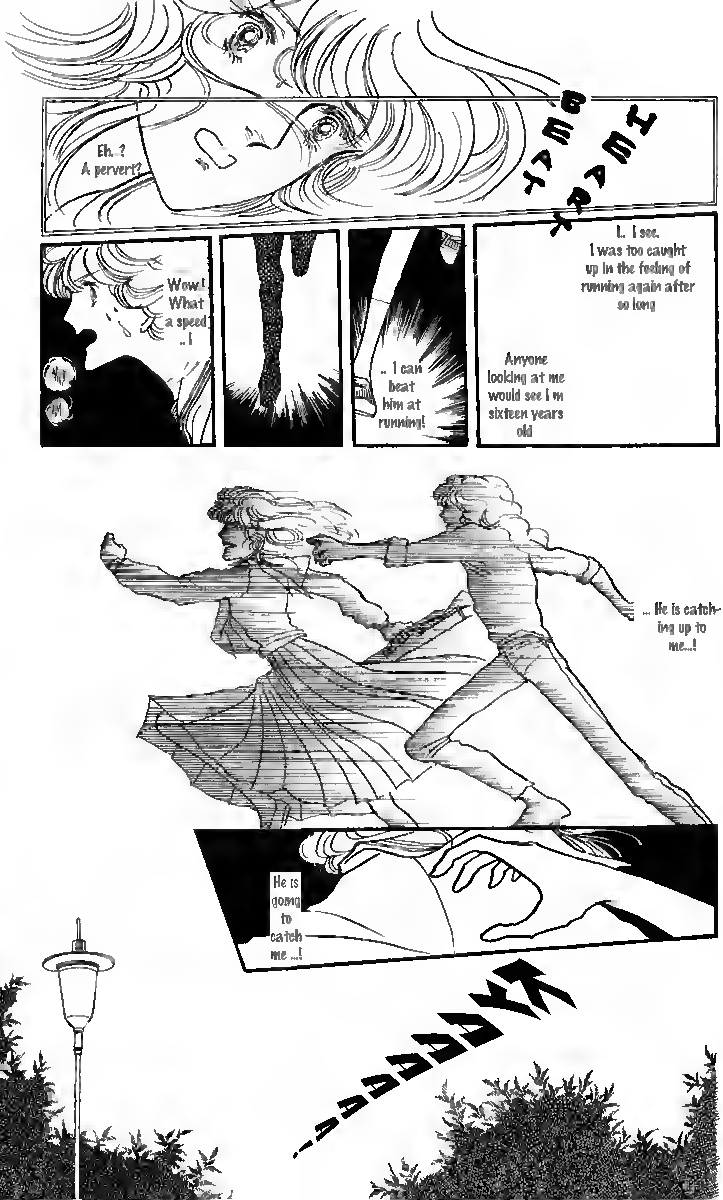
I WOULD LIKE FOR YOU TO CLING ON ME.
EXCUSE ME-! WHEN GIRLS ARE IN A SITUATION LIKE THAT, THEY SCREAM!
HOW CAN YOU TOUCH IT AS IF IT'S NOTHING?
I DON'T LIKE THEM, BUT I CAN KEEP MY COMPOSURE.
IT'S A DADDY LONG LEGS.
AHH! PLEASE DON'T!
STUPID!
DON'T BRING IT HERE! GET IT AWAY FROM ME!
I CAN'T STAND SPIDERS!
How could he possibly be an activist...
When I could touch many different things..
There was a time ...


Before I knew it, I really started to believe they were disgusting
Is that so... So it must be really disgusting thing
KEIKO-CHAN IS CARRYING A FROG!
I didn't hate things ..
Like butterflies or frogs.
And in that way..
How many things did I lose...?
Keiko-chan is such a good girl. She likes to study.
You are great, Keiko-chan.
Acting as though I enjoy studying.
Acting like a good kid

It doesn't even taste good..
That wasn't such a big deal..
WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH YOUR FATHER'S CIGARETTES?!
URG!
WHAT ON EARTH IS HAPPENING?! KEIKO, YOU ARE NOT LIKE THAT!
THAT'S RIGHT, WHEN DID YOU BECOME A BAD GIRL?
COUGH
COUGH
I was only pretending, but it really came true.
THE BUDGETING FOR THE CULTURE FESTIVAL HAS ALREADY BEEN ASSIGNED. WHAT A RELIEF.
EVERY CLUB HAS TO TRY ITS BEST, RIGHT?
AH! IT'S ALREADY DARK OUTSIDE


When I was a child I was good at running.
When I had to run for an errand, or run to school...
It takes me fifteen minutes to walk home ..
When did that go away I wonder ..
When did I stop running as little girls do.
Ten minutes if I run ..
Somehow I'm tired of just walking ..
.. I will Try to run ..
Will my legs feel as light as before?
Will I feel the air against my body?
Will I hear the sound of the wind in my ears?


DASH
..Wow..
..I'm good at it..
Ah I had forgotten. The feeling of my feet hitting the ground
But..
My body is a bit heavier..
Is someone following me...?
..Why?
It can't be..


Eh..?
A pervert?
Wow! What a speed ..!
.. I can beat him at running!
I.. I see.
I was too caught up in the feeling of running again after so long
Anyone looking at me would see I'm sixteen years old
.. He is catching up to me...!
He is going to catch me ...!

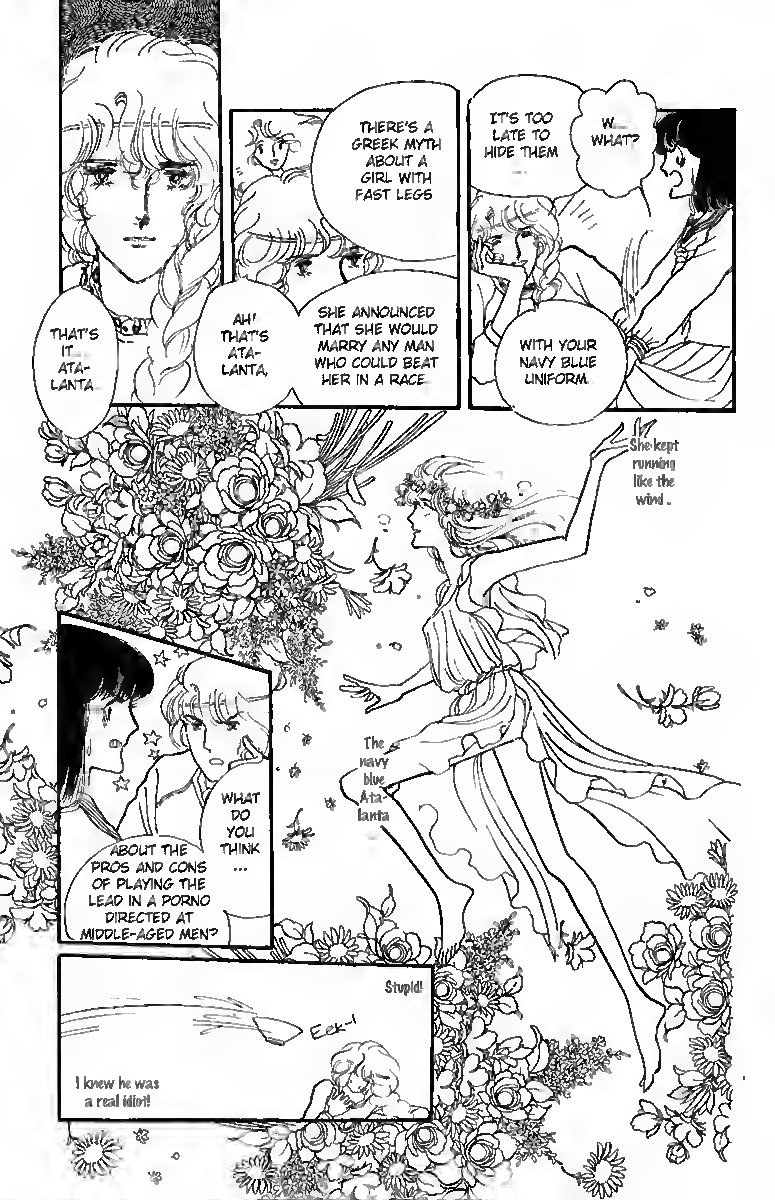
WHERE IS THE PERVERT?!
HEY! WHAT HAPPENED, KOUSUKE?
WHAT? ME?!
THE PERVERT WAS YOU
DID YOU CATCH THE PERVERT?
I MADE A MISTAKE..
NO... SHE WAS RUNNING SO FAST THAT..
MI MIMASAKA-KUN?
WHERE DID THE PERVERT GO?

SEE, I TOLD YOU KEIKO-SAN WAS NOT BEING CHASED BY A PERVERT, DIDN'T I?
How cruel! I have lost my self-confidence! waaaah!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
AND DRESSED LIKE THAT...?
KYOUKO!
WE'RE FILMING A MOVIE.
WE WERE JUST LEAVING TO FILM AT KOUSUKE'S APPARTMENT.
IT'S UNDERSTANDABLE THAT YOU WOULD GET THE WRONG IDEA...
BUT THERE'S A GOOD REASON SHE'S HERE AND DRESSED HOW SHE IS...
YOU... YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG!
HOW... INDECENT!

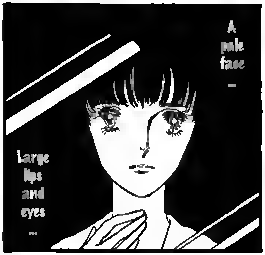
A MOVIE ...?
I'M THE LEAD ACTRESS.
THEY ASKED ME BECAUSE I'M IN A THEATRICAL COMPANY.
YOU MAKE MOVIES IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
IT'S AN INDEPENDENT MOVIE, THAT'S WHY THE SET IS LIKE THIS..
WE HAVE OUR HANDS FULL GATHERING JUST THE PRODUCTION COST.
I WON'T GUARANTEE ANYTHING!
DON'T TALK!
IT DOESN'T MATTER WE ARE MAKING A SILENT MOVIE.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE MOVEMENT OF MY LIPS

Mmm...
So this is how a movie is filmed..
OK.
CLACK
ACTION!
IS IT OK HERE?
HEY, MOVE THE CROSS LIGHT BACK A BIT.
Even though he is always having fun...
GIGGLE
He looks even happier now..
OK, A LITTLE MORE SLOWLY!
NO FILM LEFT.
AH SORRY.

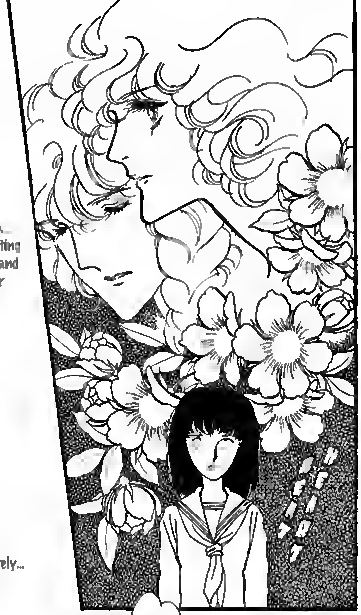
I SENT A LETTER TO ICHIMURA YOUICHI
REALLY —?
AND THAT'S MY PLAN FOR THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL.
I DOUBT IT WOULD BE SO EASY.
YOU MAY BE SELECTED AS A DIRECTOR, MIMASAKA KOUSUKE, THE SENIOR HIGH STUDENT.
WE ARE ONLY AMATEURS. ISN'T IT EMBARRASSING?
EH? THE MOVIE DIRECTOR?
WELL... IF IT WORKS, WE CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE.
YOU HAVE GUTS
CLINK
CLINK
CLINK
They are toasting with ramen..
CHEERS!
LET'S CELEBRATE IN ADVANCE
BY THE WAY, KEIKO-SAN
YOU HAVE FAIRLY GOOD LEGS
I SAW YOU EARLIER, WHEN YOU WERE RUNNING IN THE PARK
But, Kousuke ...
You ...
I thought you were just a clown. —≤
Why do you seem to shine tonight?


THERE'S A GREEK MYTH ABOUT A GIRL WITH FAST LEGS
IT'S TOO LATE TO HIDE THEM
W... WHAT?
AH! THAT'S ATA-LANTA.
SHE ANNOUNCED THAT SHE WOULD MARRY ANY MAN WHO COULD BEAT HER IN A RACE
WITH YOUR NAVY BLUE UNIFORM.
THAT'S IT... ATA-LANTA...
IV She kept running like the wind..
The navy blue Ata-lanta
WHAT DO YOU THINK ...
ABOUT THE PROS AND CONS OF PLAYING THE LEAD IN A PORNO DIRECTED AT MIDDLE-AGED MEN?
Stupid!
Eek-!
I knew he was a real idiot!

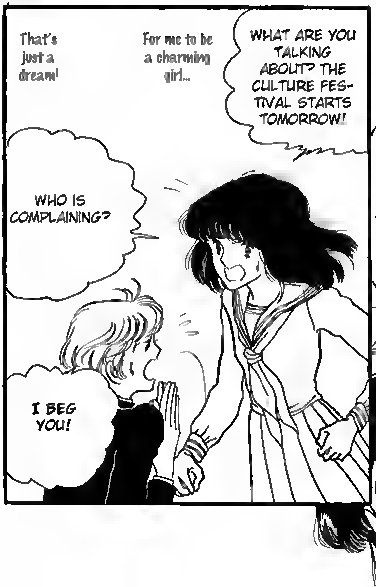
MIMASAKA KUN,
HOW IS THE MOVIE DOING?
WILL IT BE READY IN TIME FOR TOMORROW?
WITH THE CULTURE FESTIVAL DRAWING NEAR, THE MOOD CHANGED FROM APATHETIC TO LIVELY.
IT'S STRANGE, DON'T YOU THINK?
WHAT A LONELY YOUTH WE ARE LIVING.
KNOCK
KNOCK
ANYWAY, THERE'S NO TIME NOR MONEY LEFT
DID YOU DEVELOP IT BY YOURSELF?
I FINALLY FINISHED THE DEVELOPING NOW I HAVE TO EDIT IT.
ARG... THE DEVELOPING SOLUTION STINKS...
MMM... I WONDER WHAT I SHOULD DO.
WANNA COME?
I WILL TRY TO FINISH THE WORK, EVEN IF I HAVE TO STAY UP LATE TONIGHT.



Kyouko... She's getting prettier and prettier



Lately...


That's just a dream!
For me to be a charming girl...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? THE CULTURE FESTIVAL STARTS TOMORROW!
NAKAAKI-SAN!
THERE ARE SOME DISPUTES ABOUT THE SCHEDULE FOR THE AUDITORIUM
WHO IS COMPLAINING?
I BEG YOU!

DO YOU WANT ME TO WALK WITH YOU?
KURATA-SAN...!
AH!
IT SEEMS LIKE A DREAM!
Oh no it's dark outside again.
IT'S TERRIBLE THAT YOU ALSO HAD TO STAY SO LATE.
THIS IS MY LAST ASSIGN-MENT, RIGHT? I'M GLAD IT TURNED OUT THIS WAY...
BESIDES, IT ALLOWED ME TO WALK YOU HOME.

It's Kousuke's house.
The lights are on.
Did they finish the editing?
Maybe all of them are still there...
Urg
For so long I've wished to be together with him.
Why do I feel ill at ease...?
And now that wish has come true.
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
W... WELL...
I HAVE TO GO... BYE...
UH... NO...
I JUST REMEMBERED THAT I HAVE SOMETHING TO DO

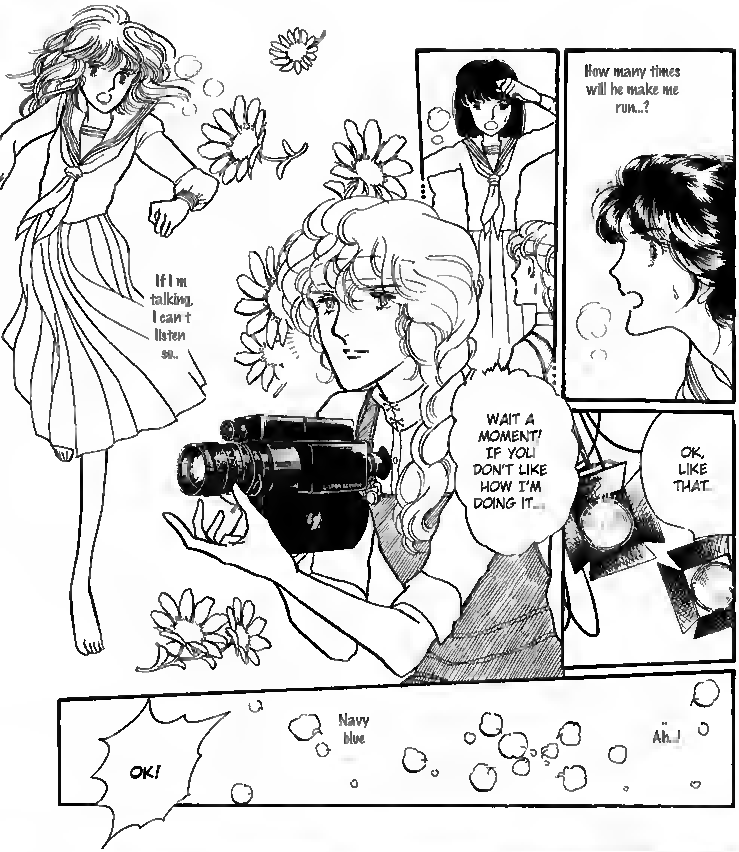
I missed my long awaited chance of walking home with Kurata-san.
GO AWAY !!
Deer sign Mimasaka
THERE'S NO POINT IN SHOWING A MOVIE THAT'S NOT WORTHY!
STOP IT!
AFTER ALL THAT WORK, YOU DON'T WANT TO SHOW IT?!
MIMA-SAKA-KUN...

IT WAS A LOT OF HARD WORK
AND NOW, THIS GUY
EH?
WAIT A MOMENT... WHAT HAPPENED?
THIS GUY DOESN'T WANT TO SHOW THE MOVIE
HEY! LET'S GO!
FINE
DO WHAT YOU WANT
YOU DON'T WANT TO SHOW IT...?
BUT... YOU FINALLY GOT TO FINISH IT
I WOULD ONLY FEEL EMBARASSED IF SOMEBODY WATCHED IT
IT'S A RUBBISH!
WHEN I WAS WATCHING IT... I RE-ALIZED
IT'S RUBBISH

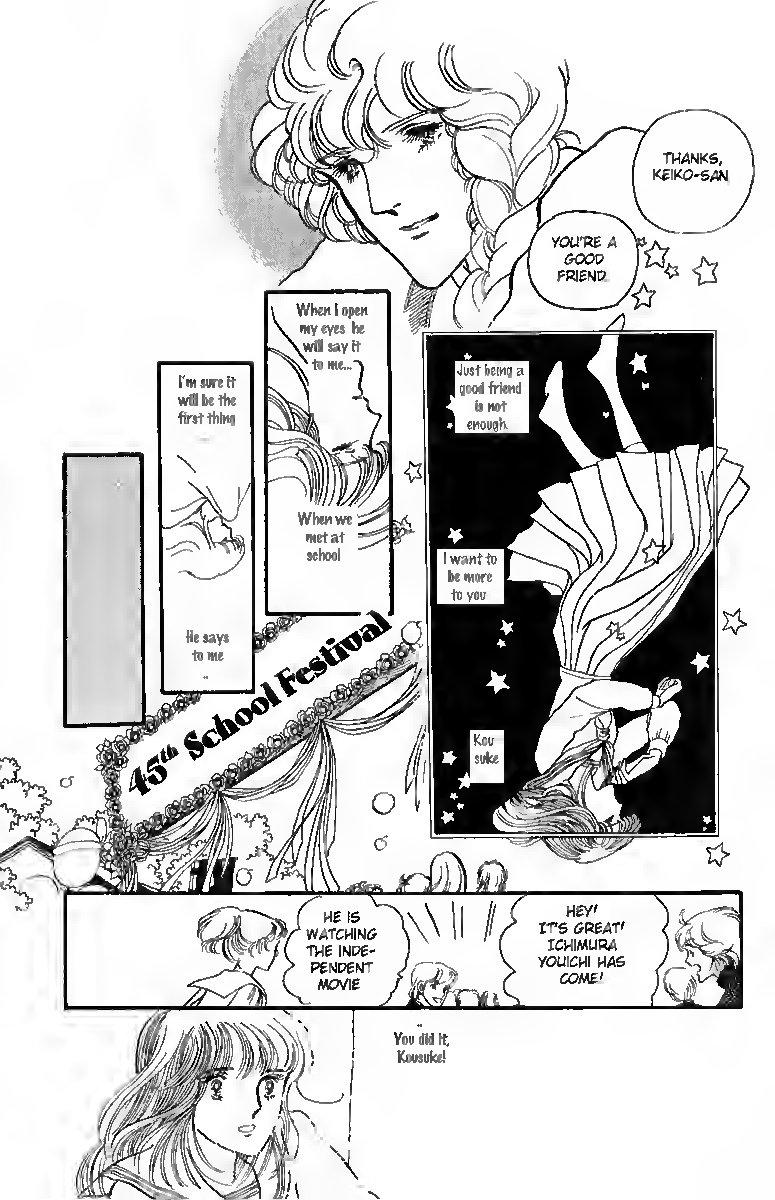
KEIKO-SAN, EXCUSE ME, BUT
YOU WON'T LET ME SEE IT?
SHOW ME THAT RUBBISH
IN THIS SCENE, I NO LONGER UNDERSTAND
CAN'T YOU FILM IT AGAIN?
JUST THIS SCENE?
THE WHOLE THEME IS CONFUSING
THAT'S CRAZY! FIRST THERE IS THE RECORDING, AND THEN THE DEVELOPING AND EDITING
AND TO GET THAT DONE BY TEN TOMORROW MORNING...
BUT IS IT POSSIBLE? IF IT IS, THEN YOU'LL BE ALL THE MORE PLEASED WITH IT
YOU DIDN'T MAKE THIS MOVIE ALONE
BESIDES, KYOUKO ISN'T HERE TO PLAY THE ROLE
I MADE A MISTAKE

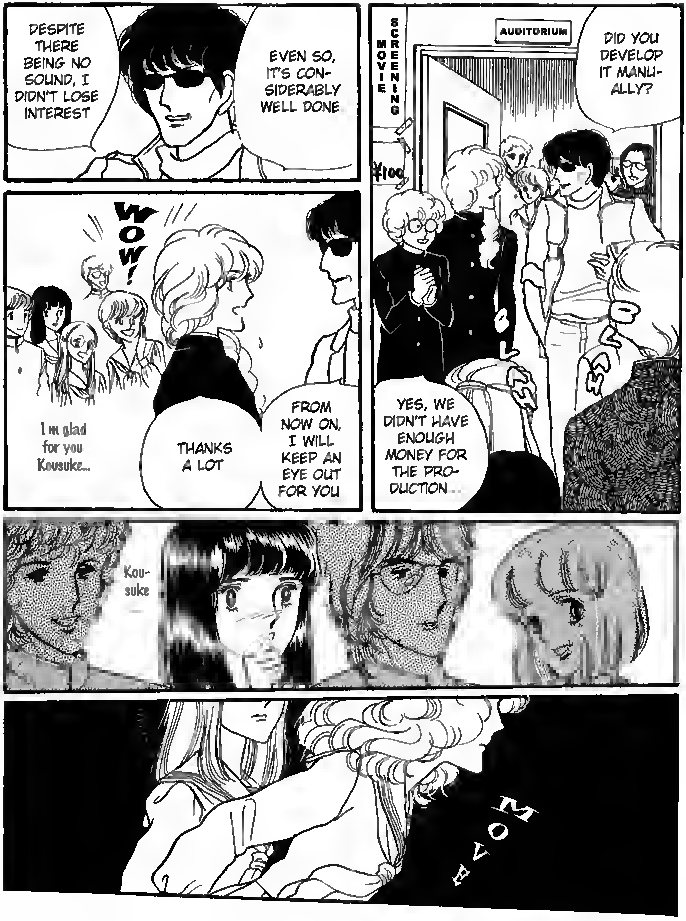
IT'S A GROUP EFFORT, MR DIRECTOR.
DON'T FORGET THAT.
SHUT UP! I'M THINKING OF WHAT TO DO!
WHAT DO WE DO?
THIS CAMERA CAN'T FILM DARK SCENES
WE CAN'T DO IT. WE DON'T HAVE A WELL-LIT SPACE THAT'S BIG ENOUGH.
THE GYMNA-SIUM!
THERE IS ONE PLACE!

RUN THIS WAY
DON'T WORRY, I WON'T FILM YOUR FACE.
ACHS
OK!
THE GYMNA-SIUM?
WE CAN BORROW LIGHTING EQUIPMENT FROM THE THEATRE CLUB
ACTION!
RUN A BIT MORE GRACE-FULLY
MORE SLOWLY!
FROM THE BEGINNING
ONE MORE TIME!
CUT!


If I'm talking, I can't listen so..
How many times will he make me run..?
WAIT A MOMENT! IF YOU DON'T LIKE HOW I'M DOING IT...
OK, LIKE THAT.
OK!
Navy blue
Ah..!

IT'S FINISHED!
AH... I'M SORRY... I FELL ASLEEP...
IT'S OK REST


THANKS, KEIKO-SAN
YOU'RE A GOOD FRIEND
When I open my eyes he will say it to me...
When we met at school
I'm sure it will be the first thing
He says to me
Just being a good friend is not enough
I want to be more to you
Kou suke
45th School Festival
HE IS WATCHING THE INDE-PENDENT MOVIE
HEY! IT'S GREAT! ICHIMURA YOUICHI HAS COME!
You did it, Kousuke!


DESPITE THERE BEING NO SOUND, I DIDN'T LOSE INTEREST
EVEN SO, IT'S CONSIDERABLY WELL DONE
MOVIE SCREENING
AUDITORIUM
DID YOU DEVELOP IT MANUALLY?
¥100
WOW!
I'm glad for you Kousuke...
THANKS A LOT
FROM NOW ON, I WILL KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR YOU
YES, WE DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH MONEY FOR THE PRODUCTION...
Kousuke
MOM
Kyouko..

IT'S JUST THAT WHEN I CALMED DOWN, I SUDDENLY FELT SLEEPY
WHAT IS IT?
CONG-RATULA-TIONS
Kou-suke
You are -
SWOOSH
Kou-suke !
An echo

Aiiro Shinwa Chapter 1

Translated by Otohime

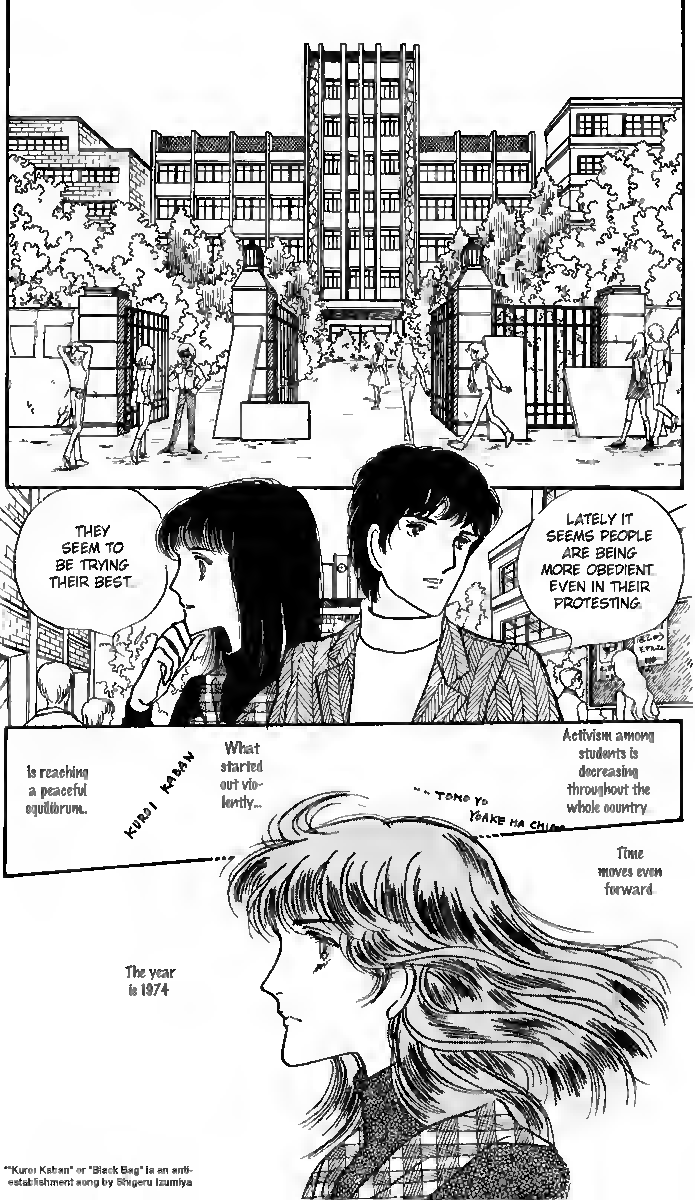
Edited by Nodukies

Proofread by Maris

QC by Otohime

Barcarolle
http://barcarolle.wordpress.com/

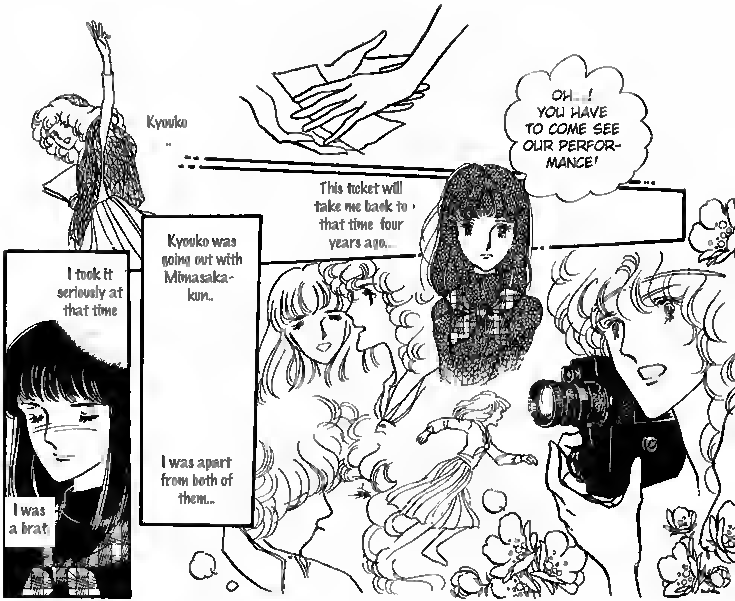
Chapter 2: 1974

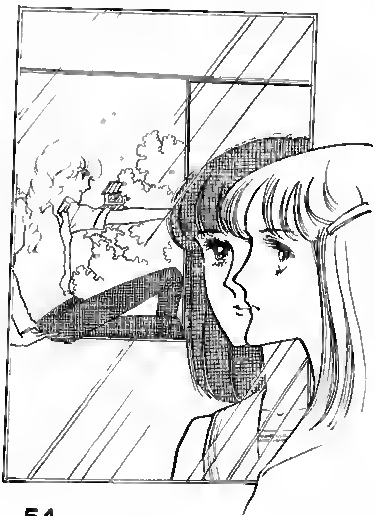

THEY SEEM TO BE TRYING THEIR BEST.
LATELY IT SEEMS PEOPLE ARE BEING MORE OBEDIENT EVEN IN THEIR PROTESTING.
Activism among students is decreasing throughout the whole country.
What started out violently...
KUROI KABAN
is reaching a peaceful equilibrium.
TOMO YO YOAKE MA CHI
Time moves even forward
The year is 1974

"Kuroi Kaban" or "Black Bag" is an anti-establishment song by Shigeru Izumiya

I, Keiko, am 20 years old
THEY'RE SELLING TICKETS FOR A PLAY.
PLEASE, LET'S WORK TOGETHER-!
Theatrical Group
Ticket Fee
Ah!
KYOUKO!

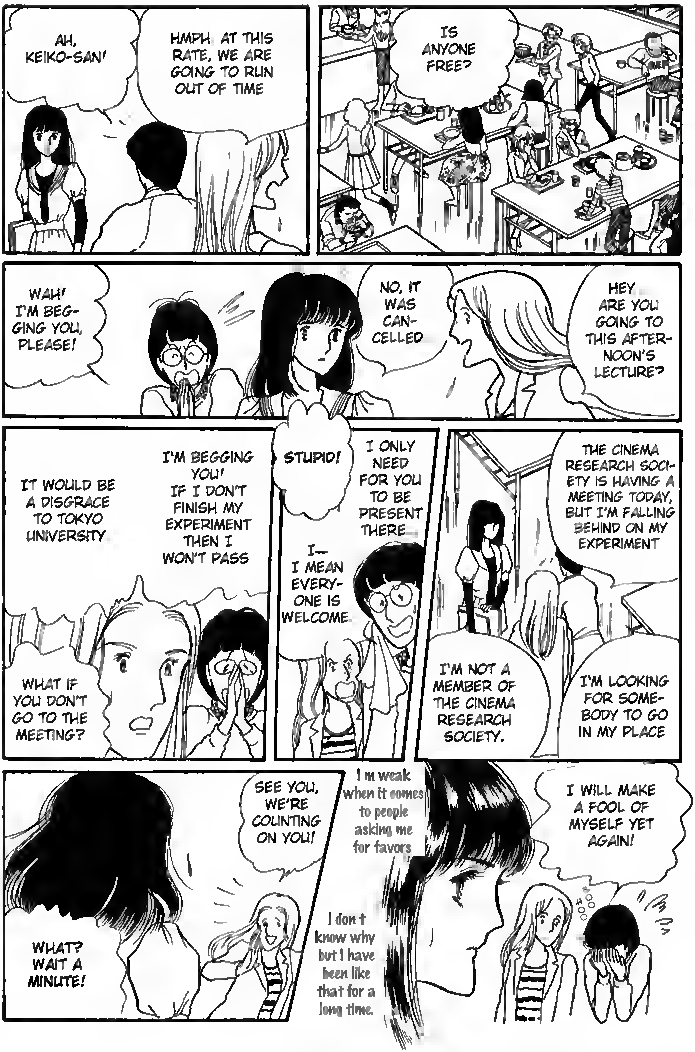
KEIKO-SAN!
AH... THIS IS KISHIDA KYOUKO-SAN WE WENT TO HIGH SCHOOL TOGETHER.
WE MEET AGAIN, AFTER ALL THESE YEARS
WOW, IT HAS BEEN A WHILE!
KURATA TAKASHI-SAN. YOU WERE THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT, RIGHT?
I REMEMBER YOU.
I'M A YEAR OLDER THAN YOU, SO WE MAY HAVE MET BEFORE
I HEARD THAT YOU JOINED A THEATRICAL COMPANY AFTER OUR GRADUATION.
AND WHAT ABOUT YOU, KYOUKO!
YOU LOOK THE SAME AS ALWAYS LIKE AN HONOR STUDENT.
THAT'S RIGHT I FINALLY GOT TO PLAY A ROLE.
SEE YOU. I HAVE TO GO NOW...
SO THE TWO OF YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED

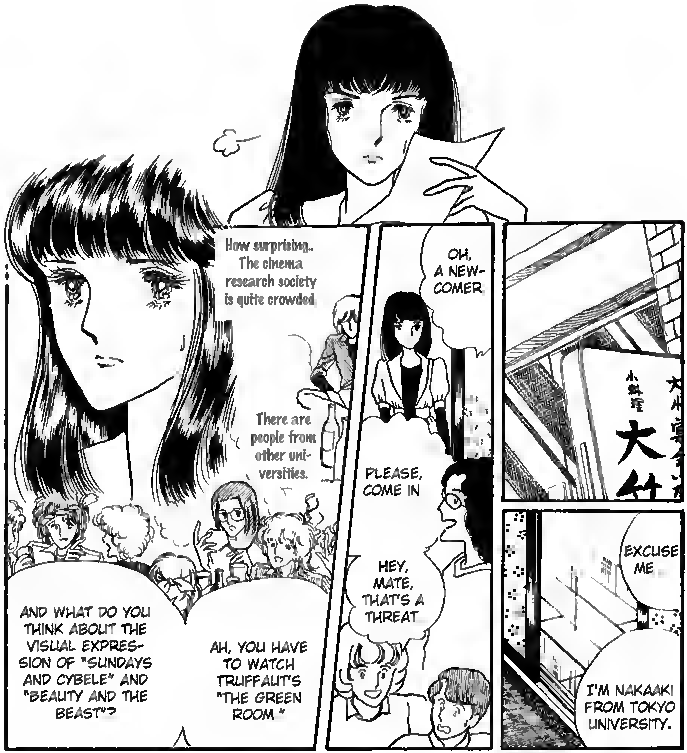

Kyouko
OH...! YOU HAVE TO COME SEE OUR PERFORMANCE!
This ticket will take me back to that time four years ago...
Kyouko was going out with Mimasaka-kun..
I was apart from both of them...
I took it seriously at that time
I was a brat

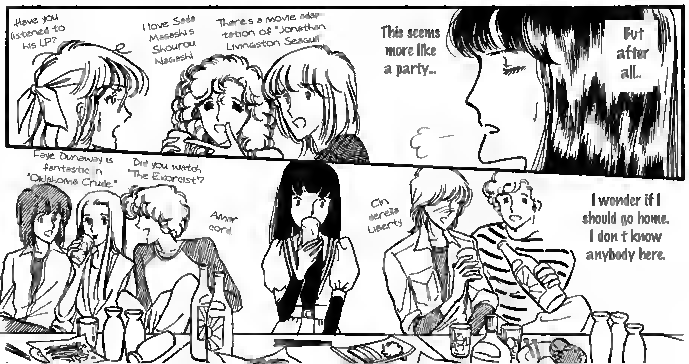


HUSHUSH
TUM TUM TUM
Shows like this have never been my thing...
But lately they are becoming even flashier.
YOU'RE GOING TO YOUR DARLING FILMMAKER'S PLACE?
TSK. HOW BORING
WRONG, IDIOT!
KYOU-CHAN, WANNA HAVE LUNCH WITH ME?
NO
IT WAS GOOD.
BUT I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THE PLOT.
DID YOU LIKE IT?
COULD THAT BE MIMASAKA-KUN?
DARLING FILMMAKER ?

Kyouko and Mimasaka-kun are still together
I see
I MEAN
NOW WAY! DON'T MISUNDERSTAND!
IT'S NOT AS THOUGH WE'RE GETTING MARRIED OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT!
WELL... I CONFESS...
Hmph
It seems like all that happened so long ago...
I had a little crush on you.
You didn't know that did you?
He is still crazy about movies...
I wonder if he still has long hair
I miss you Kousuke-kun...


AH, KEIKO-SAN!
HMPH. AT THIS RATE, WE ARE GOING TO RUN OUT OF TIME
IS ANYONE FREE?
WAH! I'M BEGGING YOU, PLEASE!
NO, IT WAS CANCELLED
HEY ARE YOU GOING TO THIS AFTERNOON'S LECTURE?
IT WOULD BE A DISGRACE TO TOKYO UNIVERSITY
I'M BEGGING YOU! IF I DON'T FINISH MY EXPERIMENT THEN I WON'T PASS
WHAT IF YOU DON'T GO TO THE MEETING?
STUPID!
I ONLY NEED FOR YOU TO BE PRESENT THERE
I— I MEAN EVERYONE IS WELCOME
THE CINEMA RESEARCH SOCIETY IS HAVING A MEETING TODAY, BUT I'M FALLING BEHIND ON MY EXPERIMENT
I'M NOT A MEMBER OF THE CINEMA RESEARCH SOCIETY.
I'M LOOKING FOR SOMEBODY TO GO IN MY PLACE
SEE YOU, WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU!
WHAT? WAIT A MINUTE!
I'm weak when it comes to people asking me for favors
I don't know why but I have been like that for a long time.
I WILL MAKE A FOOL OF MYSELF YET AGAIN!
BOO HOO

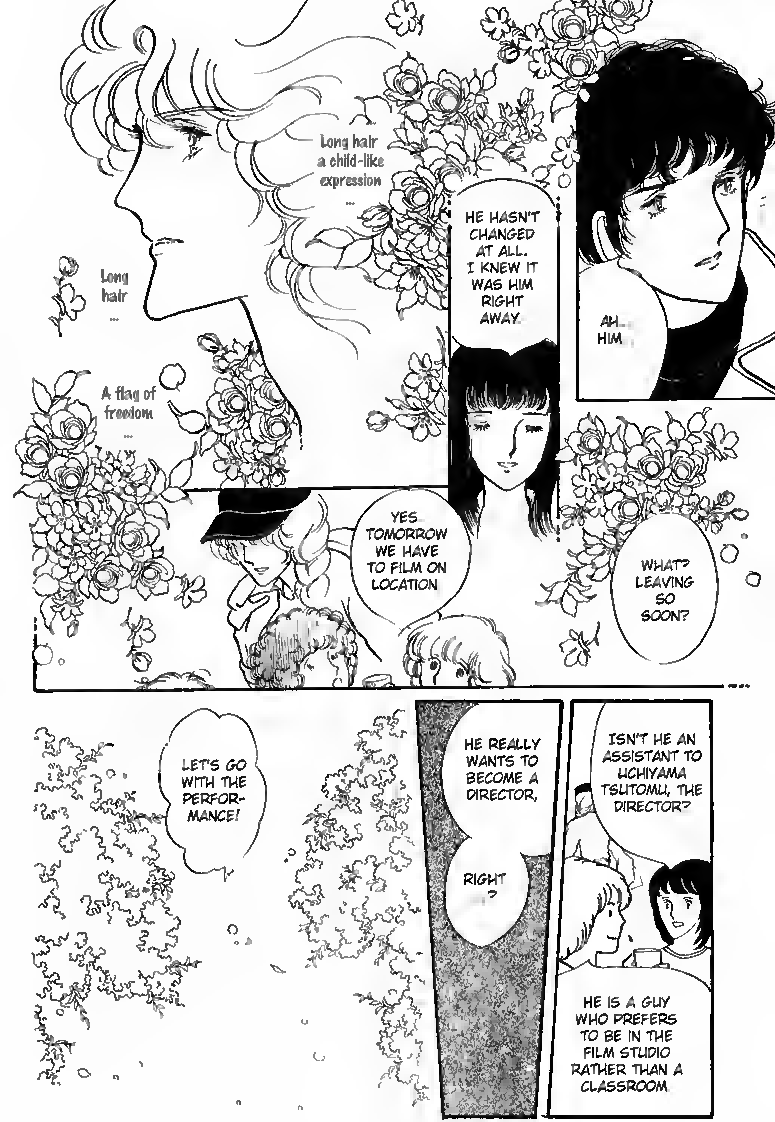

How surprising.. The cinema research society is quite crowded.
There are people from other universities.
AND WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE VISUAL EXPRESSION OF "SUNDAYS AND CYBELE" AND "BEAUTY AND THE BEAST"?
AH, YOU HAVE TO WATCH TRUFFAUT'S "THE GREEN ROOM."
OH, A NEWCOMER
PLEASE, COME IN
HEY, MATE, THAT'S A THREAT
EXCUSE ME
I'M NAKAAK! FROM TOKYO UNIVERSITY.


Have you listened to his LP?
I love Seta Masashi's Shounen Naissid
There's a movie adaptation of "Jonathan Livingston Seagull"
This seems more like a party..
But after all..
Faye Dunaway is fantastic in "Oklahoma Crude."
Did you watch, "The Exorcist"?
Amar cord
Un viaje Liberty
I wonder if I should go home. I don't know anybody here.

Oops..
Wah... Oh no this guy is drunk
GRAB
SLAP
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!
I— I'M SORRY...
AHAHA WAHAHA
It hurts!
HOW CRUEL... AFTER I TOOK ALL THE TROUBLE TO GET NEAR YOU.
Ah!
EH ?
YOU ARE STILL THE SAME, KEIKO-SAN

AH!
MIMA-SAKA-KUN!
YOU RE-MEMBER ME?
I WASN'T SURE YOU WOULD.
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU CAME HERE
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?
I'M AN ART MAJOR AT THE PRESTIGIOUS THIRD RATE Q-UNIVERSITY.
THEY DON'T OFFER A FILM MAJOR.
BUT I HARDLY GO TO CLASS.
I'M TOTALLY DEDICATED TO MY JOB AS AN ASSISTANT IN A FILM STUDIO
DO YOU USUALLY COME HERE?
YEAH
CINEMAS ARE BECOMING NOISY AND DULL PLACES
THIS IS A PLACE WHERE YOU CAN STILL FIND MOVIE ENTHU-SIASTS
You haven't changed
DO YOU STILL FILM MOVIES?
YES! LISTEN TO THIS!
NOW I WORK WITH 35MM FILM..
I'M FILMING AN EPIC MOVIE WITH SOME COL-LEAGUES FROM THE UNIVERSITY

EXCUSE ME-! IS THERE A NAKAAKI KEIKO-SAN HERE?
BY THE WAY, SINCE WE MET UP AGAIN,
I WANTED TO SAY
OH MY GOSH! I HAD AN AP-POINTMENT WITH HIM!
AH!
SOMEONE BY THE NAME OF KURATA-SAN IS LOOKING FOR YOU
Since we met up again
I wanted to thank you for that time.
SEE YOU, MIMASA-KA-KUN.
IT WAS NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
I'M SORRY, TAKASHI-SAN
I PLANNED TO MEET YOU, BUT I GOT DISTRACTED
Thanks a lot Keiko-san.
I'M GLAD I CAME TO CHECK
HE WAS A TRANSFER STUDENT AT OUR HIGH SCHOOL. MIMASAKA KOUSUKE...
OH, DON'T YOU REMEMBER HIM?
DID YOU KNOW THAT GUY?


Long hair
a child-like
expression
...
Long
hair
...
A flag of
freedom
...
HE HASN'T CHANGED AT ALL. I KNEW IT WAS HIM RIGHT AWAY.
AH... HIM
YES. TOMORROW WE HAVE TO FILM ON LOCATION
WHAT? LEAVING SO SOON?
LET'S GO WITH THE PERFOR-MANCE!
HE REALLY WANTS TO BECOME A DIRECTOR, RIGHT ?
ISN'T HE AN ASSISTANT TO UCHIYAMA TSUTOMU, THE DIRECTOR?
HE IS A GUY WHO PREFERS TO BE IN THE FILM STUDIO RATHER THAN A CLASSROOM

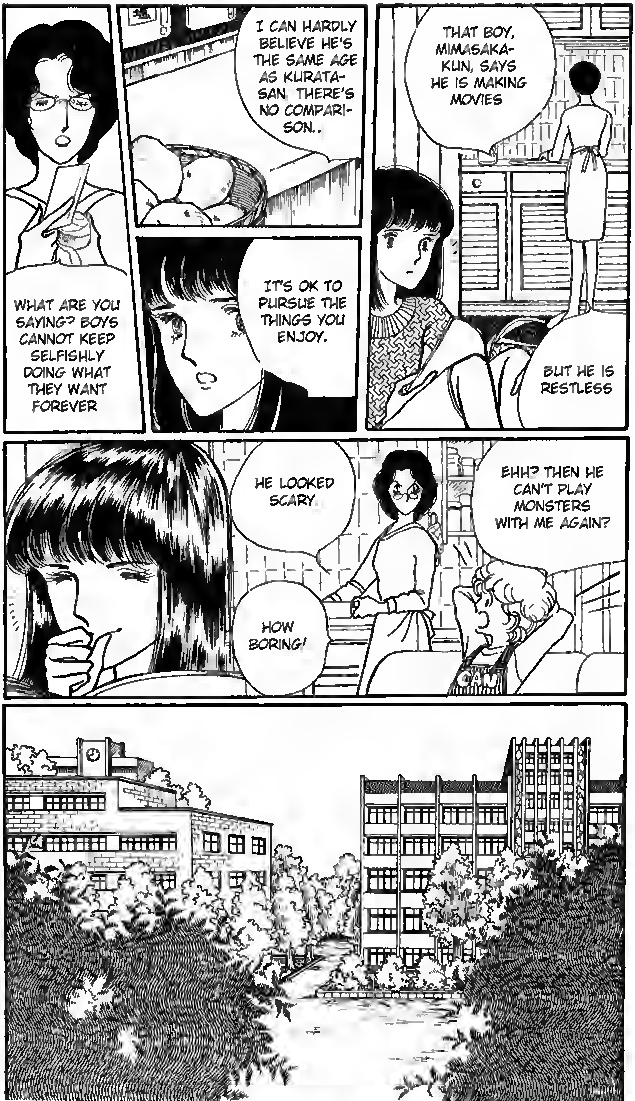
SCENE 16
CLACK
KOUSUKE, MOVE IT BACK
OK
AH! IDIOT! THAT'S TOO FAR BACK!
EH?
FALL
AHH!
SPLASH
DRRD...
KOUSUKE, ARE YOU REALLY OK?
I CAN DRIVE YOU HOME

I USED TO GO TO HIGH SCHOOL NEAR HERE. I'LL FIND A FRIEND'S HOUSE AND DRY OFF THERE
It would be bad if I made his car dirty...
DON'T WORRY... I'M OK
THANKS
JROOR
SEE YOU, TAKE CARE
NAKAAKI
AH-CHOO
I don't know this place
I wonder if I do have any friends in the area
Na-ka-aki?
Could it be her?
NAKAAKI
But
NAKAAKI
I can't even take a train looking like this...

DING DONG
The moment of truth ..!
STARE
WHO IS IT?
SOMEONE ASKED IF THERE'S A GIRL CALLED KEIKO AT HOME
I DON'T LIKE THE SOUND OF THIS
YES ...?
WHAT ? A GIRL CALLED KEIKO ?
MIMASAKA-KUN!

WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?
HE FELL INTO THE RIVER AT A FILMING LOCATION.
FILMING LOCATION? LIKE FOR A MOVIE?
I HEARD THAT YOU APPEAR IN MOVIES.
NO... I'M NOT AN ACTOR...
I'M LEARNING HOW TO FILM MOVIES...
OH... THAT'S QUITE A GOAL FOR SOMEONE SO YOUNG.
...YOU WANT TO MAKE A LIVING DOING THAT?
MOM...! JUST A MOMENT!
I'M SURE YOUR PARENTS WILL BE WORRIED.
MOM!
I DON'T THINK SO.
MY FAMILY LIVES IN A SMALL PLACE, AND I HAVE THREE BIG BROTHERS.
I THINK THEY FEEL THAT ANYTHING I DO IS FINE, AS LONG AS I'M ALIVE
BUT IT WASN'T LIKE THAT IN THE BEGINNING.

WHAT KIND? WESTERNS?
MONSTER MOVIES?
ONII-CHAN, YOU MAKE MOVIES? THAT'S GREAT!
IT SEEMS THEY GAVE UP ON ME WHEN I WAS EXPELLED FROM HIGH SCHOOL.
OH MY GOD
DO YOU LIKE MONSTERS?
YEAH!
ZUTRA
ZMZMU
ZMZMU
ZMZMU
THOSE PUPPETS ARE TERRIBLE
THEY GET PILED UP IN A STORE-HOUSE I GET THE SHIVERS WHEN I SEE THEM
REALLY?
THEY ARE TERRIBLE! ANY MOMENT THEY MIGHT GO ROAR!!
AAAH!
AAH
AAH
ROAR
ROAR
Kousuke-kun definitely hasn't changed one bit
He is a moron as always


I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE HE'S THE SAME AGE AS KURATA-SAN. THERE'S NO COMPARI-SON..
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? BOYS CANNOT KEEP SELFISHLY DOING WHAT THEY WANT FOREVER
IT'S OK TO PURSUE THE THINGS YOU ENJOY.
THAT BOY, MIMASAKA-KUN, SAYS HE IS MAKING MOVIES
BUT HE IS RESTLESS
HE LOOKED SCARY.
HOW BORING!
EHH? THEN HE CAN'T PLAY MONSTERS WITH ME AGAIN?

PUFF
SIGH
COUGH
COUGH
SINCE WHEN DO YOU SMOKE?
MIMA-SAKA-KUN!
W— WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
THE OTHER DAY I BORROWED YOUR DAD'S SHIRT.
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU SMOKE.
I GOT INTO THE HABIT WHEN I WAS STUDYING FOR EXAMS CAN'T I SMOKE?

IT'S NOT THAT
I JUST NEVER PICTURED YOU DOING IT
LOOKS LIKE YOU MADE A GOOD CHOICE INDEED.
YOU ENTERED THAT TERRIBLE SCHOOL WITH NO OBJECTIONS.
BUT IT'S GREAT.
IT SUITS YOU ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU'VE GOT THAT WHITE COAT ON. MAKES YOU LOOK LIKE A DOCTOR
I DIDN'T MAKE ANY CHOICE.
AND YOU EVEN GOT YOURSELF AN AWFULLY PERFECT BOYFRIEND.
This cigarette suddenly tastes bad.
WHY SHOULDN'T I FALL IN LOVE WITH HIM?
HE IS TALL, HANDSOME, EVERYTHING A GIRL COULD WANT.
ARE YOU SAYING THAT IT WAS JUST CHANCE THAT YOU FELL IN LOVE WITH A GUY LIKE THAT?

IF YOU SPEND TOO MUCH TIME BEING RATIONAL ..
YOU'LL SOON BE WEARING A WEDDING DRESS AND A BITTER SMILE
THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS
WELL, THAT'S TRUE
HOW ABOUT KYOUKO ? HOW IS SHE DOING?
FINE

HERE WE SCHEDULED SOME SCREENING PROJECTION MEETINGS
YOU'RE WELCOME TO COME IF YOU LIKE
SEE YOU
Kousuke-kun...?
HELLO, NAKAAKI RESIDENCE
YES, JUST A MINUTE
KEIKO,
IT'S FOR YOU!
Kyouko...?
IT'S KISHIDA-SAN I WONDER IF IT'S YOUR FRIEND FROM HIGH SCHOOL
SHE SOUNDS STRANGE

DID YOU MEET WITH KOUSUKE?
KYOUKO! WHAT IS IT?
KEIKO-SAN

DID HE SAY ANYTHING TO YOU ABOUT ME?
カチン
Y— YES
WAIT A MOMENT... WHAT'S WITH YOU?
NOTHING IN PARTICULAR
WE'RE OVER
WE
Kyouko!

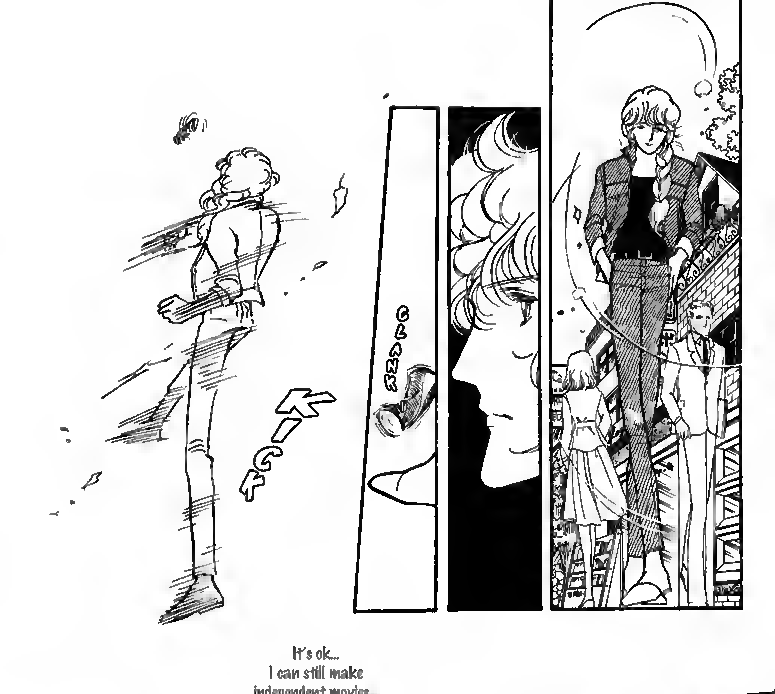
Why
Why
MIMASAKA-KUN!
I HAVE TO TALK TO YOU!
I FINALLY COME TO SCHOOL AND THIS HAP-PENS?
WHAT ? WHAT IS IT?
SO IT'S ABOUT KYOUKO
I SEE
KYOUKO IS NOT LIKE THAT
IF I DID SOMETHING, I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT WAS

... SHE WAS THE ONE WHO STARTED THE CONVERSATION ABOUT SPLITTING UP.
I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING.
... What...?
KYOUKO'S EX-BOYFRIEND...
YOU USED TO BE SO STRAIGHTFORWARD. WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT, KEIKO-SAN?
HE WAS A STUDENT ACTIVIST. YES...
KIND OF SIMILAR TO ME...

I THINK AT FIRST SHE DIDN'T NOTICE,
I'M NOT THE FIGHTING TYPE
I CANNOT ACT THE SAME WAY HE DOES
BUT EVENTUALLY...
BEFORE EITHER OF US KNEW IT, WE BOTH DISCOVERED THINGS WERE DIFFERENT THAN WE HAD IMAGINED
STOP...!
HOW COULD YOU BREAK UP LIKE THAT!
KEIKO-SAN
WHAT'S WITH YOU?
Stop...!
They're only excuses, but...
For the sake of your relationship...
For my sake.. Because I once cried over this...
I'M SORRY... I'M JUST BEING SENTIMENTAL.
I'M SORRY... IT'S YOUR BUSINESS, NOT MINE.
Stupid!

Keiko-san...?
THANKS A LOT, MIMA-SAKA-KUN
TAKE A BREAK
JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE
THIS MIGHT BE OUR LAST WORK
LAST...?

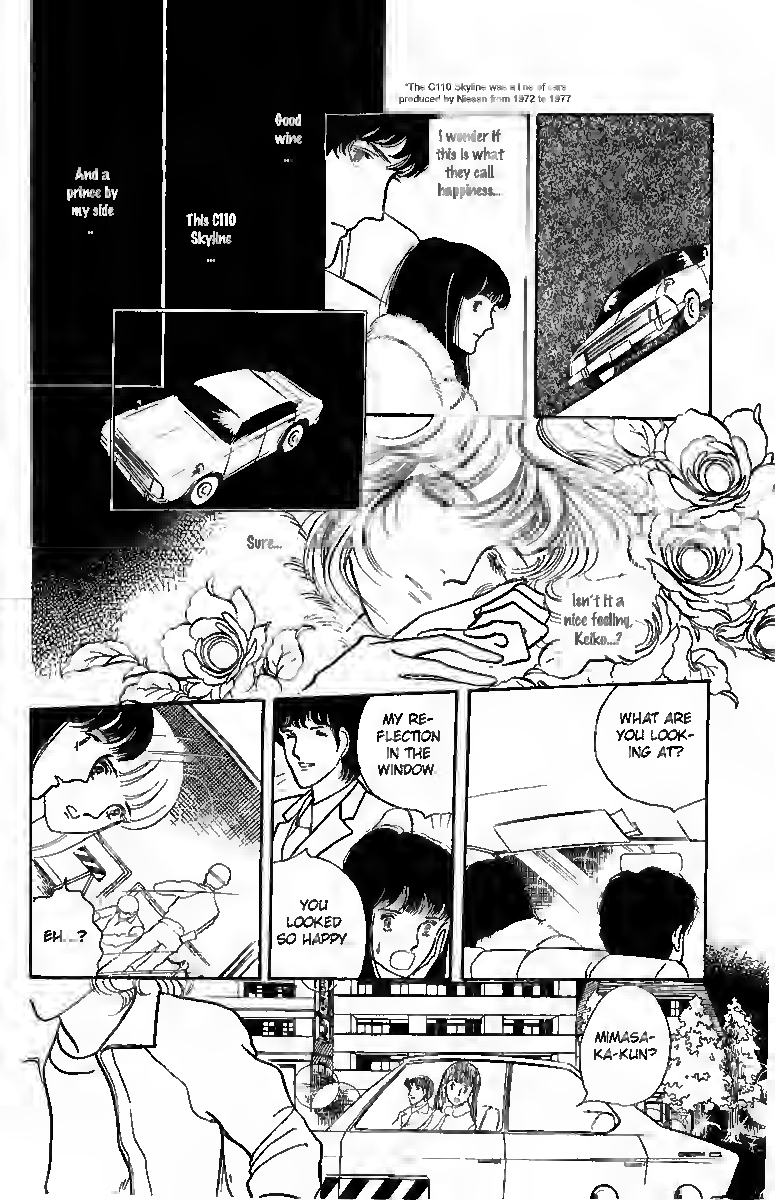
OUR COMPANY WILL CLOSE SOON.
IT'S BECAUSE BUSINESS IS SLOW IN THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY.
WHAT? YOU DIDN'T KNOW?
Bankruptcy?!
SO OUR ONLY OPTION WOULD BE GANGSTER MOVIES OR PORN.
BUT WE HAVE TO WORK TO EARN A LIVING.
SOME OF THE DIRECTORS ARE WELL KNOWN IN THE INDUSTRY.
THEY WILL GO TO ANOTHER COMPANY
IF WE WERE WELL KNOWN AND HAD MONEY, WE COULD WORK INDEPENDENTLY.
THANKS FOR WORKING WITH US ALL THIS TIME
I THOUGHT YOU COULD WORK HERE WHEN YOU GRADUATED.
BUT UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES
DON'T WORRY... I'M VERY GRATEFUL TO YOU.


KICK
SIGH
It's ok..
I can still make
independent movies

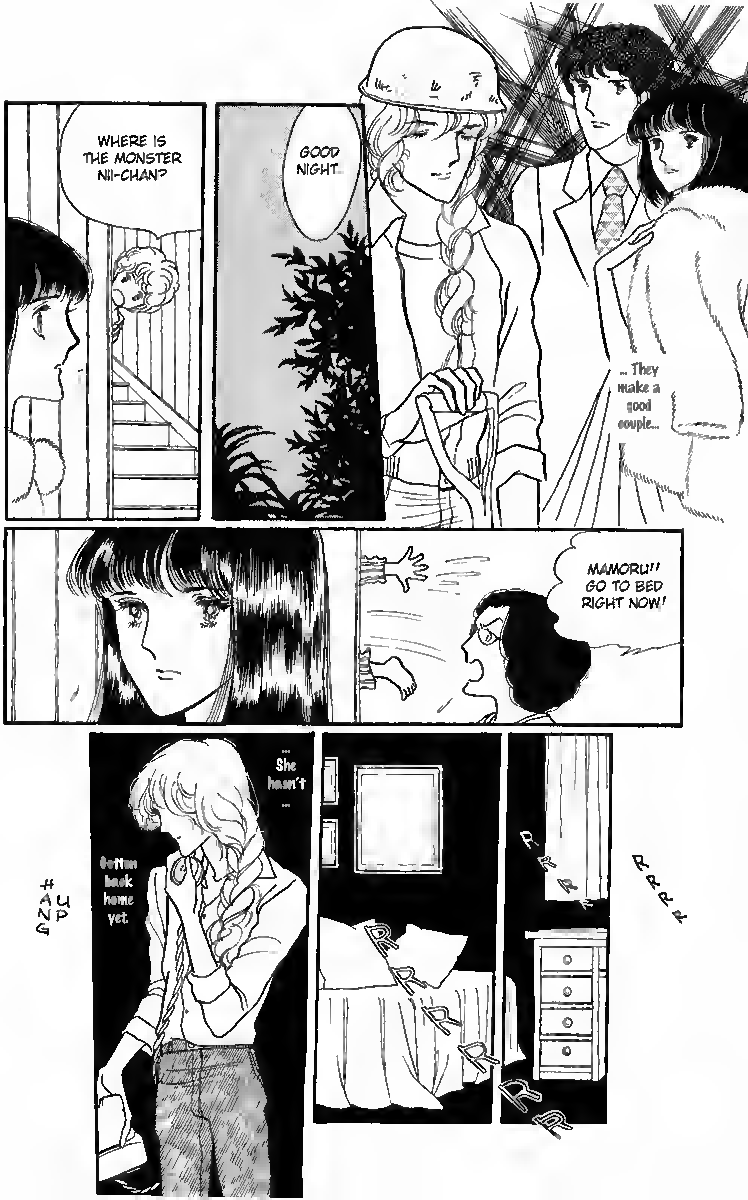
KEIKO-CHAN,
WHAT WILL YOU DO AFTER YOU GRADUATE?
THANKS
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

IN WHICH FIELD?
I WILL TRY TO FIND EMPLOYMENT.
IT'S FOR YOU.
That's right... I haven't thought about it yet..
WHO KNOWS ....
PLEASE OPEN IT.
I have to be fit for it..
I HAVEN'T ....
JUST AS I THOUGHT
IT REALLY SUITS YOU.

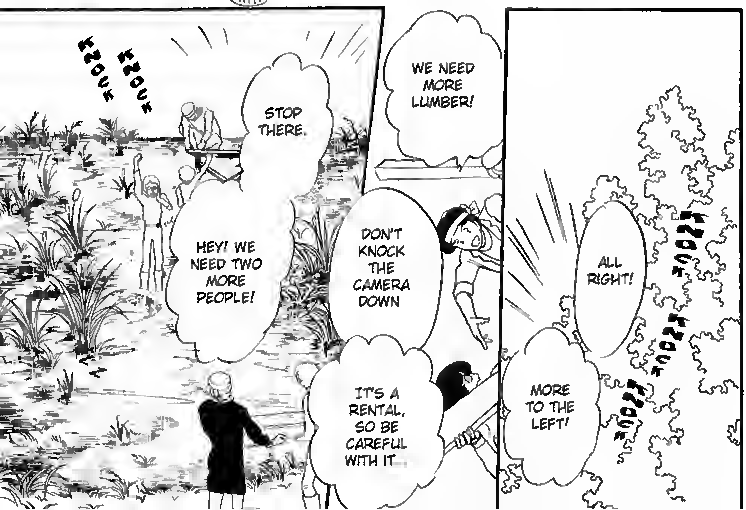
THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO WORK
GIRLS DON'T NEED TO TRY SO HARD.
Takashi-san.
Are you
Proposing to me?


*The C110 Skyline was a line of cars produced by Nissan from 1972 to 1977
Good wine ..
And a prince by my side ..
This C110 Skyline ...
I wonder if this is what they call happiness...
Sure...
Isn't it a nice feeling, Keiko...?
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?
MY REFLECTION IN THE WINDOW
YOU LOOKED SO HAPPY
EH...?
MIMASAKA-KUN?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I'M WORK ING!
MAKING MOVIES IS EXPENSIVE.
GET BACK!
MUD MIGHT SPLASH ON YOU!
What is this all about ?
DOOM
He has totally ruined my mood
ZAAA
Why am I so irritated...?


WHERE IS THE MONSTER NII-CHAN?
GOOD NIGHT
... They make a good couple...
MAMORU!! GO TO BED RIGHT NOW!
... She hasn't ...
Gettin back home yet
RRRR
RRRR
RRRR
RRRR
#JP FANG

*This song is Kandagawa by Kaguya-hime. It was first released in 1973



WHY DO PEOPLE INVOLVED IN MOVIES HAVE TO GO THROUGH SO MUCH HARDSHIP? AND WHY DOES EVERYTHING COST SO MUCH MONEY?
WE DID IT!
WE SPENT THE WHOLE WEEK ON JUST THIS SCAFFOLD.
I'M SO TIRED
YAMADA, WHAT'S THE MATTER?
HERE, HAVE SOME JUICE
BY THE WAY KOUSUKE...
TICK
YES...?
AFTER WE FINISH THIS MOVIE... I WILL LEAVE THIS TEAM
WHAT?
MY PARENTS KEEP PESTERING ME TO GET A JOB
I CAN'T DO THIS FOREVER
YAMADA!
I HAD THOUGHT ABOUT WORKING IN A FIELD RELATED TO THE FILM INDUSTRY

BUT THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY IS IN A RECESSION.
THERE IS NO PLACE FOR US.
WE CAN'T PLAY AROUND ANYMORE.
PLAY?
YAMADA, HOW COULD YOU!
ME TOO.
I ALSO HAVE TO QUIT.
S— STOP, MIMASAKA-KUN!
NOBODY WANTS TO QUIT,
BUT...
This will be our last independent project.

IN THAT CASE, I HAVE TO GIVE IT MY ALL...
KOU-SUKE...
MIMASA-KA-KUN
CREAK
CREAK
WHOOSH
KNOCK KNOCK
KISHIDA
203
ARE YOU GOING SOME-WHERE...?

MY REGIONAL PLAY OPENS TOMORROW
I WILL GO TO AMERICA
AND AFTER THAT?
I SEE
...DON'T LAUGH, OK?
AMERICA?
I LOVE THE THEATER MORE AND MORE
AND IT HELPS ME TO KNOW MYSELF BETTER.
I REALLY CAME TO LOVE IT
SO I WANT TO STUDY IT ONCE MORE FROM THE BEGINNING.
AT FIRST I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO ACTING, BUT I WAS NOT VERY GOOD AT IT
BEFORE I KNEW IT

KOU-SUKE !
YOU CAN DO IT
CAN YOU SLEEP ALONE TONIGHT?
DON'T TALK NON-SENSE
THAT'S RIGHT
IF I DO THAT,
IT WILL HAVE BEEN FOR NOTHING.

... KOUSUKE ...
... I NEVER LOVED YOU FROM THE START.
I'M SORRY ...
I SEE ...
ちくん
ガーン
ガーン
ガーン

CLATTER
CLATTER
CLATTER
CLATTER
ASAHI BEER
ONE CUP
IT'S MIDNIGHT!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
PLOP
PLOP

Stop...!
How could you break up like that!
ひどい
ハーハー
ハーハー
ひどい

SSH
SSSHH
SSH
SSSH
The sound of rain?
Is it still raining ...?
What time is it?
HEY! YOU ROLL AROUND A LOT IN YOUR SLEEP
WAH! WHAT'S THIS BRAID DOING HERE!
YOU ARE TERRIBLE-!
11 AM...? HAS IT BEEN RAINING FROM LAST NIGHT UNTIL NOW?
IT'S A TYPHOON DIDN'T YOU HEAR?

.. It's no good the rain will flood that little river ..!
.. The scaffold...!
HEY! I'M BORROWING THIS PIECE OF JUNK
WHAT? THAT'S MY CAR!
DON'T WRECK IT!
YOU BETTER BRING IT BACK!
Damn! A typhoon now?
NAKAAKI
NICE TO MEET YOU, KEIKO-SAN
WE ARE KURATA TAKASHI'S PARENTS
KRO
M
THE TRUTH IS THAT TODAY, TAKASHI
HE WANTS TO PROPOSE TO YOU.

WHAT ?
SKREE
SKREE
CRASH
CRASH

Aiiro Shinwa
Chapter 2

Translated by Otohime

Edited by Nakukies

Proofread by Maris

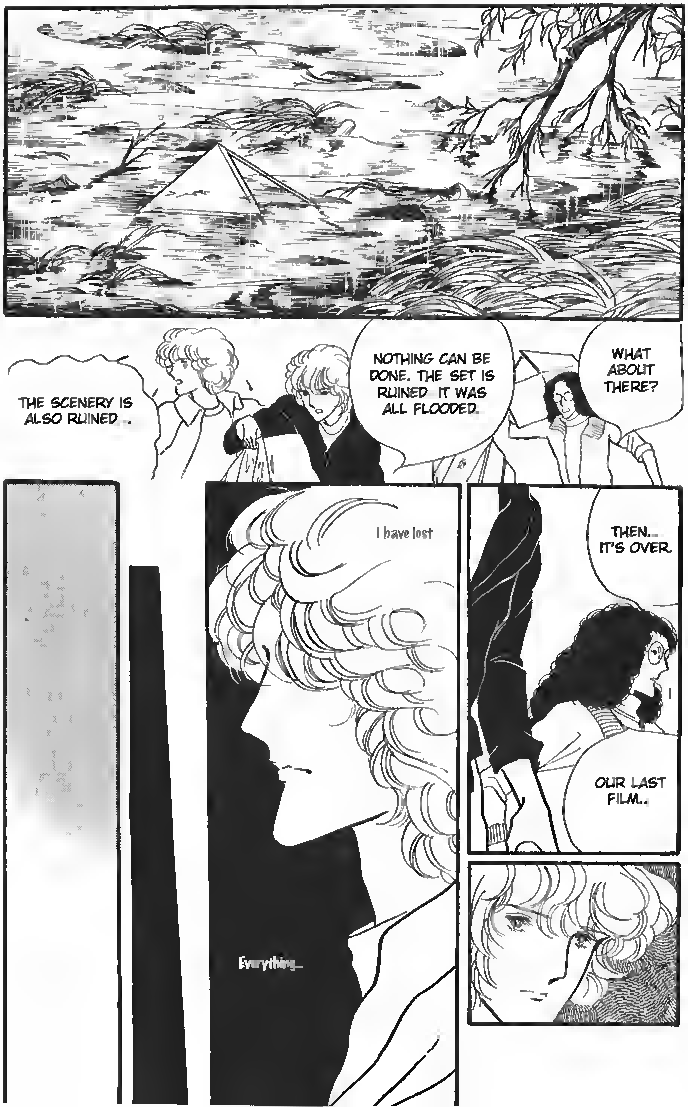
QC by Otohime

Barcarolle
http://barcarolles.wordpress.com/

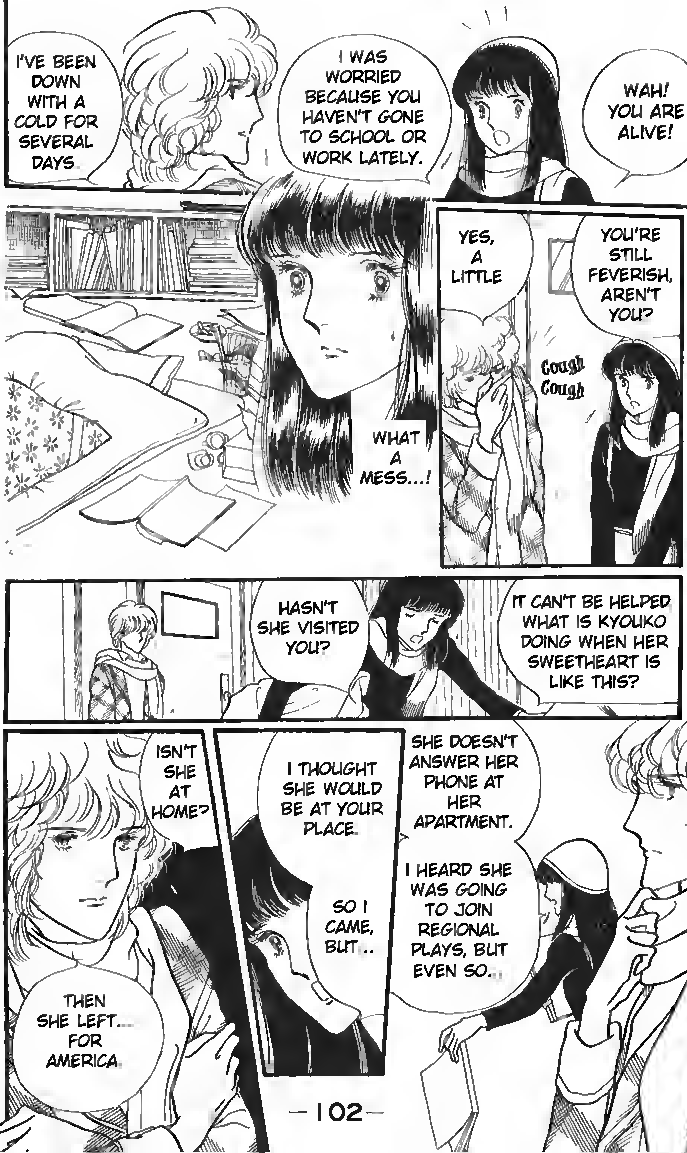
Chapter 3:1976

THEN WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
ABOUT WHAT?
THIS GIRL.. SHE ACTS LIKE IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH HER.
WE HAD A GOOD TALK WITH THEM.
HE SAYS HE WILL WAIT UNTIL YOUR GRADUATION
IT IS A BIT SUDDEN, BUT... YOU AND TAKAHASHI HAVE KNOWN EACH OTHER FOR A LONG TIME
AND YOU HAVE OUR APPROVAL
Marriage
IT SEEMS A BIT SUDDEN, BUT TAKASHI SAYS HE HAS DECIDED TO FIND EMPLOYMENT
WE ARE EAGER TO HAVE A FINE LADY LIKE KEIKO-SAN BECOME OUR DAUGHTER.

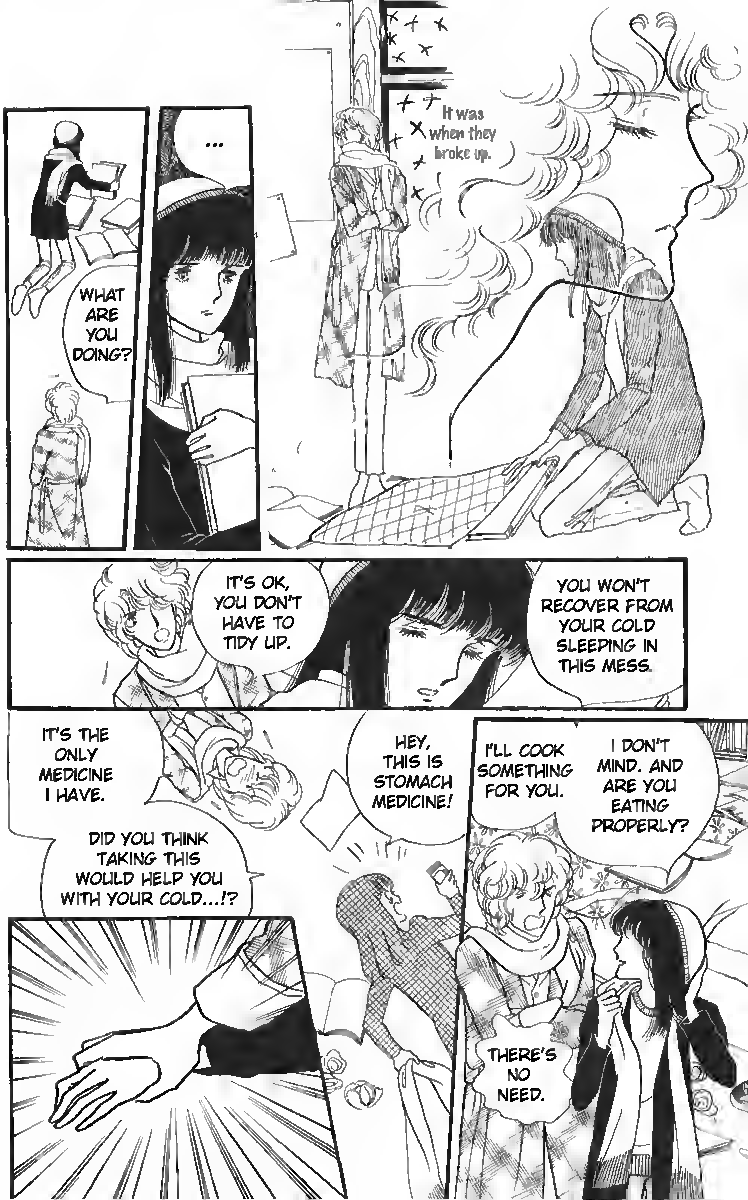
SLAM
CONSIDER YOUR ANSWER CAREFULLY.
YES.
Marriage...
Me... Becoming Takashi's wife?
The one I wished for...
He is the one I longed for since high school.


THE SCENERY IS ALSO RUINED..
NOTHING CAN BE DONE. THE SET IS RUINED IT WAS ALL FLOODED.
WHAT ABOUT THERE?
I have lost
Everything...
THEN... IT'S OVER.
OUR LAST FILM..

1975
MIMASAKA
knock knock
HI...
knock knock
MIMA-SAKA-KUN?
ARE YOU THERE?
creak


I'VE BEEN DOWN WITH A COLD FOR SEVERAL DAYS.
I WAS WORRIED BECAUSE YOU HAVEN'T GONE TO SCHOOL OR WORK LATELY.
WAH! YOU ARE ALIVE!
WHAT A MESS...!
YES, A LITTLE
YOU'RE STILL FEVERISH, AREN'T YOU?
Cough Cough
HASN'T SHE VISITED YOU?
IT CAN'T BE HELPED WHAT IS KYOUKO DOING WHEN HER SWEETHEART IS LIKE THIS?
ISN'T SHE AT HOME?
I THOUGHT SHE WOULD BE AT YOUR PLACE.
SHE DOESN'T ANSWER HER PHONE AT HER APARTMENT.
I HEARD SHE WAS GOING TO JOIN REGIONAL PLAYS, BUT EVEN SO...
SO I CAME, BUT...
THEN SHE LEFT... FOR AMERICA.

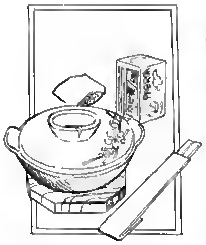
When did Kousuke cut his hair...?
AH...!
HUH?
What's with the sudden change?
What a waste. it suited him.
There was no particular reason
Just a warning against my naivety...
He isn't used to having his hair short and now it's winter...
No wonder he's caught a cold.

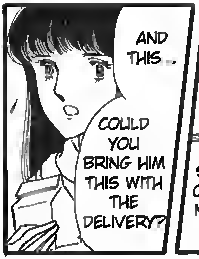

It was when they broke up.
...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
IT'S OK, YOU DON'T HAVE TO TIDY UP.
YOU WON'T RECOVER FROM YOUR COLD SLEEPING IN THIS MESS.
I'LL COOK SOMETHING FOR YOU.
I DON'T MIND. AND ARE YOU EATING PROPERLY?
THERE'S NO NEED.
HEY, THIS IS STOMACH MEDICINE!
IT'S THE ONLY MEDICINE I HAVE.
DID YOU THINK TAKING THIS WOULD HELP YOU WITH YOUR COLD...!?

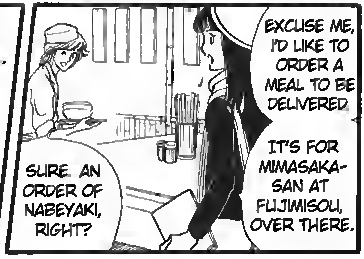
LEAVE ME ALONE.
I'M BEGGING YOU.
RIGHT NOW... I WANT TO BE ALONE.
AH...
THEN CAN YOU... LET GO OF MY HAND?
OK, I'M GOING BACK HOME!
HMPH!
I'M SORRY
SLAM
step
step
step
step
step

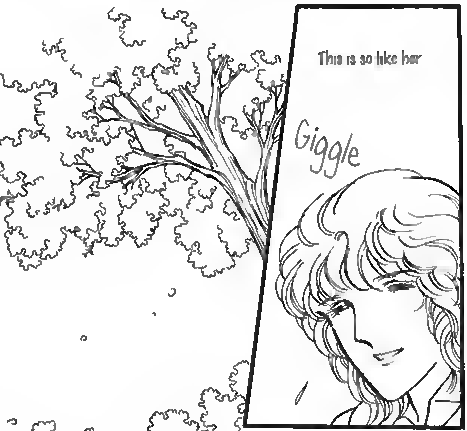
I can't keep my emotions under control. I'm a spoiled brat.
When I see your face...
I'm sorry Keiko-san...
Drug Store
Pabron Cold Remedy
Pabron Cold Remedy
Say good bye to sneeze and coughs!
How dare he! I was worried about him.
I hope he dies from that cold
WELCOME.

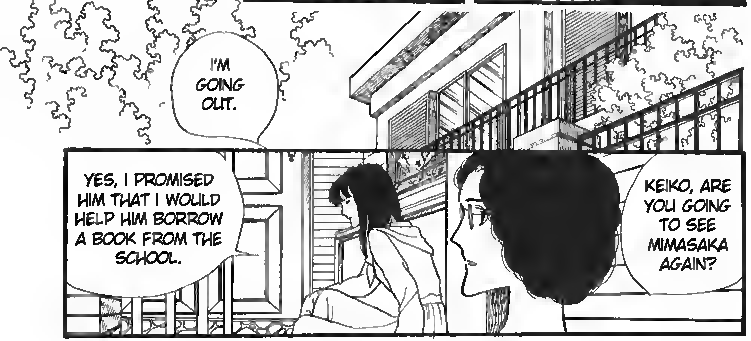
Note: Nabeyaki is a hot soup dish consisting of thick udon noodles and an assortment of meats and vegetables.

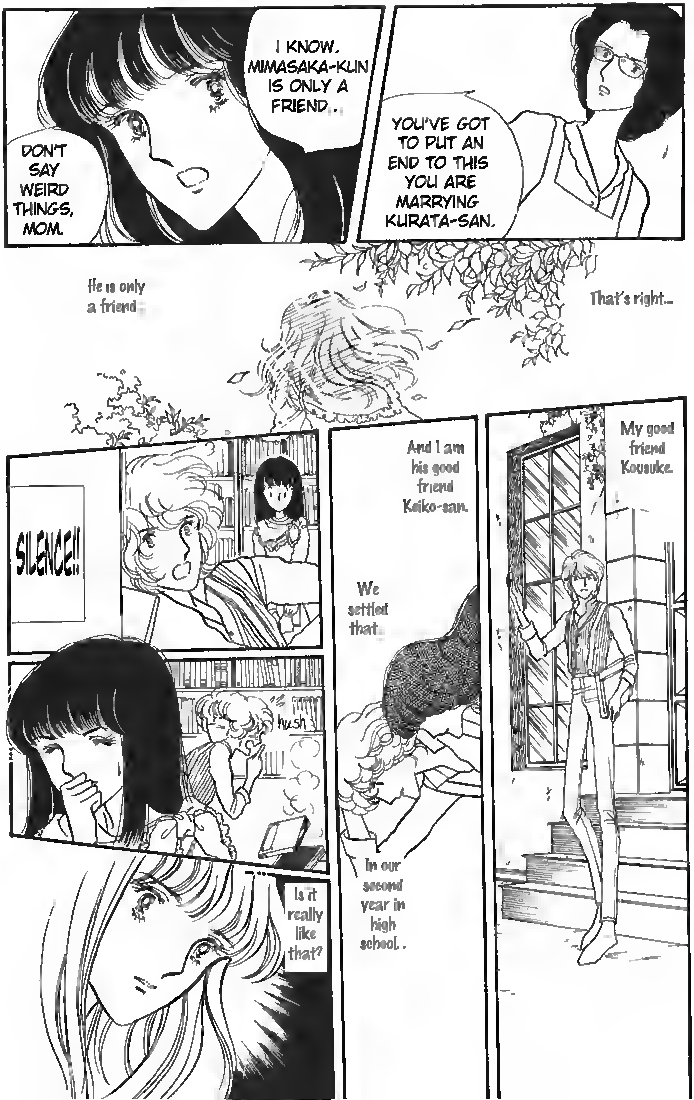





EXCUSE ME, I'D LIKE TO ORDER A MEAL TO BE DELIVERED.
IT'S FOR MIMASAKA-SAN AT FUJIMISOU, OVER THERE.
SURE. AN ORDER OF NABEYAKI, RIGHT?

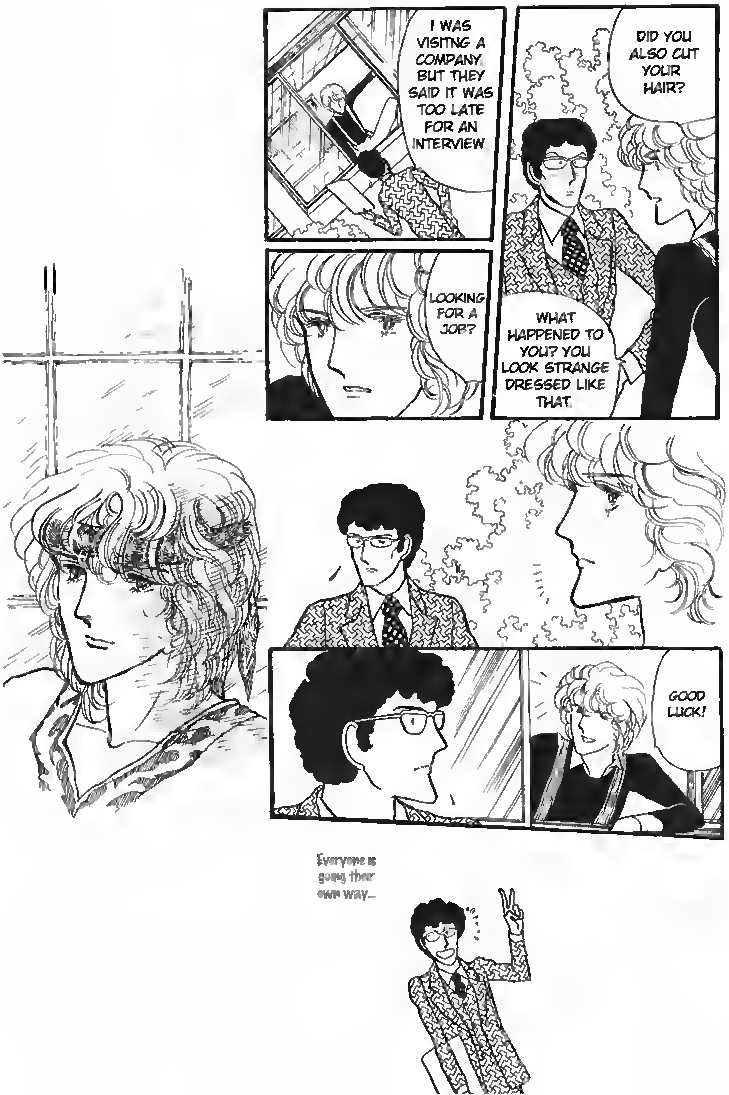



I'M GOING OUT.
YES, I PROMISED HIM THAT I WOULD HELP HIM BORROW A BOOK FROM THE SCHOOL.
KEIKO, ARE YOU GOING TO SEE MIMASAKA AGAIN?


I KNOW. MIMASAKA-KUN IS ONLY A FRIEND..
DON'T SAY WEIRD THINGS, MOM.
YOU'VE GOT TO PUT AN END TO THIS YOU ARE MARRYING KURATA-SAN.
He is only a friend...
That's right...
SILENCE!!
hush
Is it really like that?
We settled that...
And I am his good friend Keiko-san.
In our second year in high school..
My good friend Kousuke.

It can't be..!
Am I falling in love with him again..?
Hey look, Keiko.
Could it be that I'm glad..?
That Kousuke and Kyouko broke up?
OH, THERE'S YOUR SWEETHEART.
IT'S RARE TO SEE YOU HERE AT UNIVERSITY.
Silly!
YES, I CAME HERE TO GREET A FORMER PROFESSOR.
THEN THE THIRD WHEEL SHOULD DISAPPEAR!

No... This is the man for me.
I like how I feel at ease when I'm with him.
I HAD A BUSINESS TRIP TO KOBE
WAH! COSMO-POLITIAN CHOCO-LATE!
WHILE I WAS OUT, I BOUGHT THIS FOR YOU, MY PRINCESS
YAMADA, IS THAT YOU?
HEY!


I WAS VISITING A COMPANY, BUT THEY SAID IT WAS TOO LATE FOR AN INTERVIEW
DID YOU ALSO CUT YOUR HAIR?
LOOKING FOR A JOB?
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU? YOU LOOK STRANGE DRESSED LIKE THAT.
GOOD LUCK!
Everyone is going their own way...

I also cut my hair...
Will I completely forget about movies, like them?
KOUSUKE! ARE YOU THERE?
knock knock
EVERYTHING LOOKS THE SAME AS EVER.
BROTHER!
HOW ARE YOU DOING?
THERE'S AN ACADEMIC MEETING IN TOKYO, SO I'LL SLEEP HERE TONIGHT.
HOW IS DAD?
HE'S FINE, THOUGH HE'S GETTING OLDER.
YOU COULD CALL HOME ONCE IN A WHILE.

YOU'RE GRADUATING NEXT YEAR, RIGHT? SO FOR THE TIME BEING...
ARE YOU GOING TO FIND A JOB?
IF YOU DO PLAN TO GET A JOB I CAN HELP YOU PULL SOME STRINGS.
OK.
HANG IN THERE.
YOU HAVE YOUR FAMILY, SO YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY.
YES...
A FRIEND OF MINE IS A PRODUCER FOR MADE-FOR-TV MOVIES.
HE SAYS HE WANTS TO MOVE ON TO INDEPENDENT FILMS NEXT.
I'M... NOT SURE ANYMORE ..
DO YOU STILL... WANT TO FILM MOVIES?

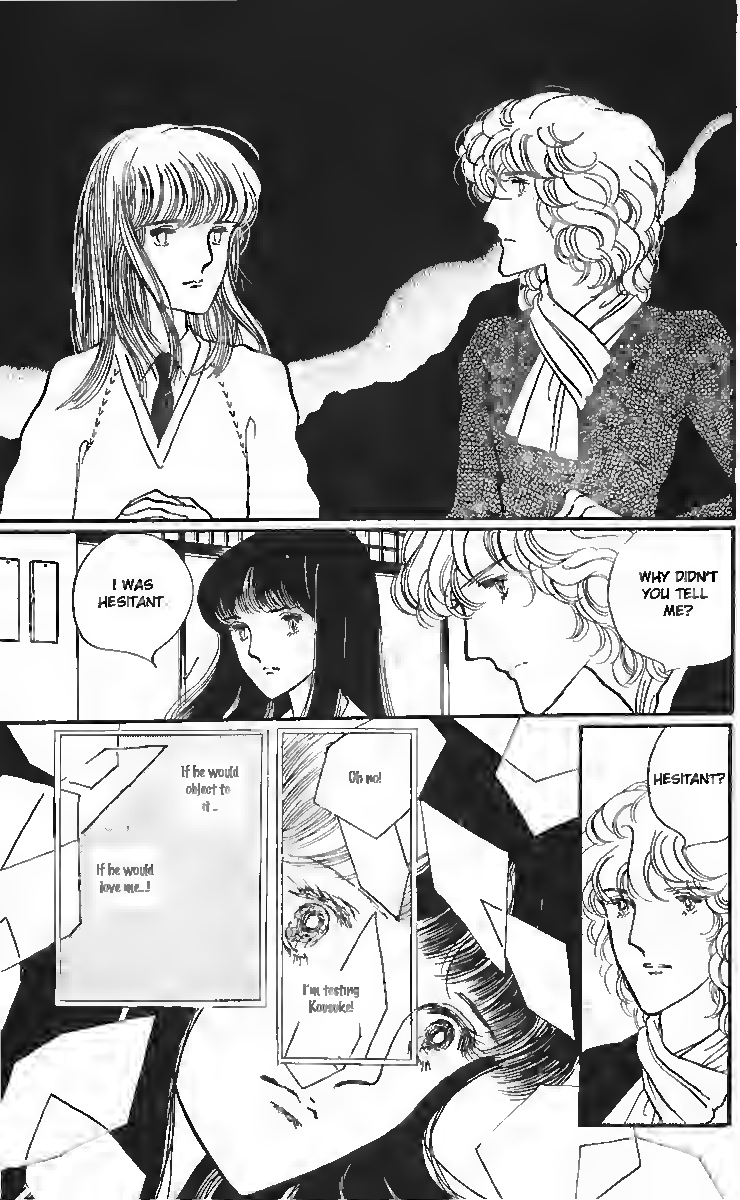
I WILL DO IT!
DO YOU WANT TO APPLY?
HE TOLD ME HE'S LOOKING FOR A SECOND CAMERAMAN.
I'LL DO IT!
YOU'RE A BRUTE, SAME AS ALWAYS.
Thank you...
Brother.

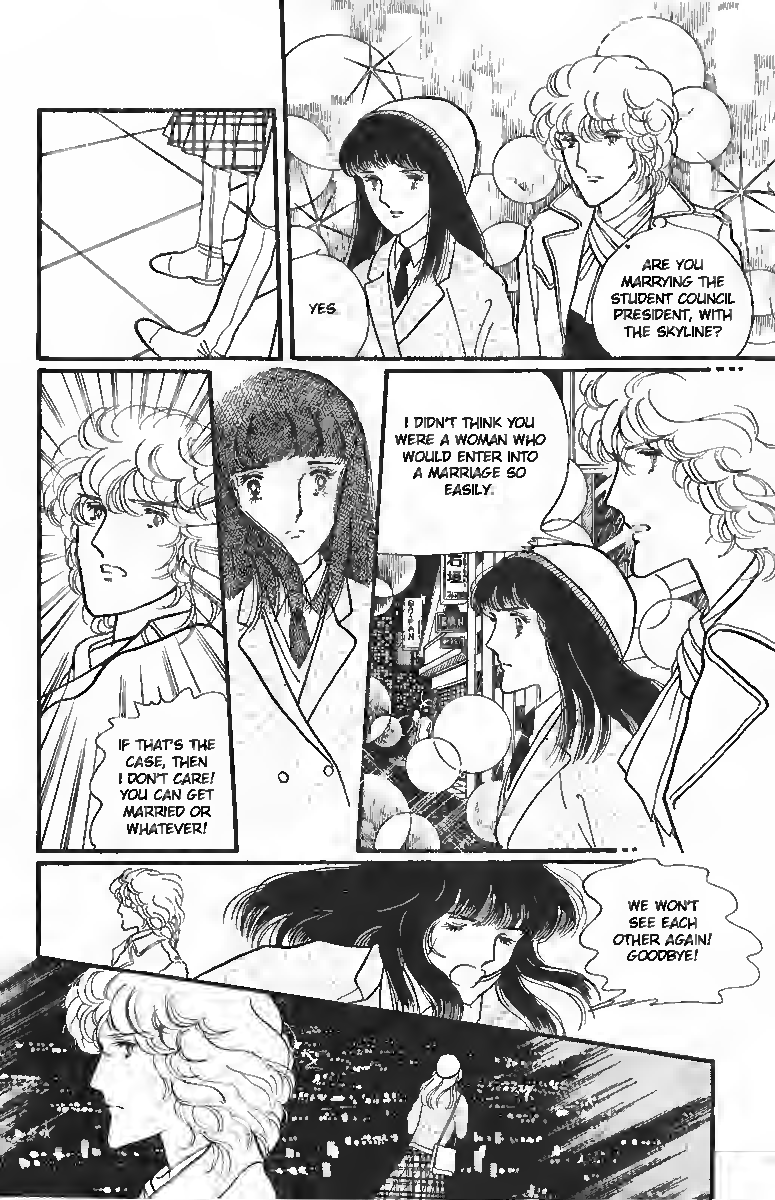
You are blessed with happiness...
When you marry...
Your first love. Because you will be together forever
JUST AS I EXPECTED, YOU LOOK VERY PRETTY
That's how relationships are supposed to work...
I feel strange...
So strange...
It's strange...
Why am I feeling so unhappy...?

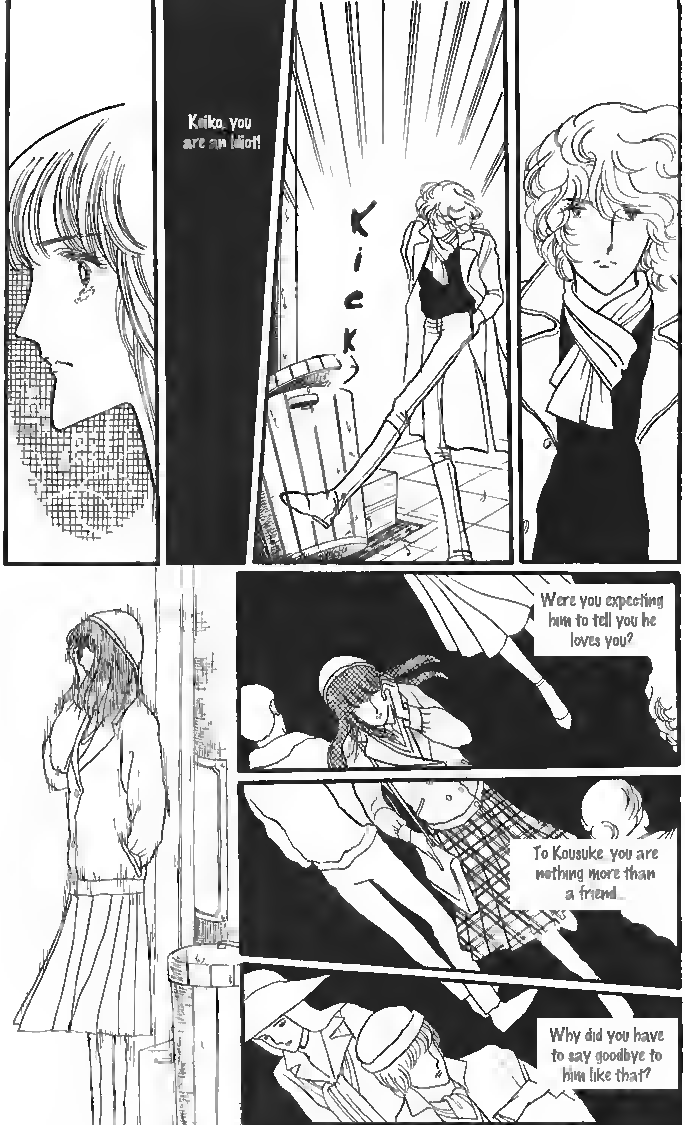
R R R R
HI, KEIKO-SAN, CAN WE MEET?
JUST FOR A MOMENT. I HAVE GOOD NEWS.
I have to greet relatives...
AH, BUT THIS AFTERNOON...
R R R R
If you spend too much time being rational..
You'll soon be wearing a wedding dress and a bitter smile.
I don't understand...
Myself...
If he is just a friend..
I wonder why I haven't told Kousuke about the marriage..
I should have told him..
FORGET IT. SURE, I'LL SEE YOU AT FIVE O'CLOCK

He he he
THAT SEEMS LIKE VERY GOOD NEWS.
IT IS. I'M GOING TO WORK THE NEXT MADE-FOR-TV MOVIE.
DURING THIS TIME, I'LL PLAN MY OWN FILM.
AND THEN. .
As I thought it's about movies
Kousuke. .
AND NEXT MONTH WE WILL FILM LOCATION...
STOP IT...!
Which do you like more?
Movies or me..
Kousuke..

STOP TALKING ABOUT MOVIES!
KEIKO-SAN?
THIS WILL BE THE LAST TIME WE MEET LIKE THIS
CLANK
I AM GETTING MARRIED SOON AFTER MY GRADUATION!
I...

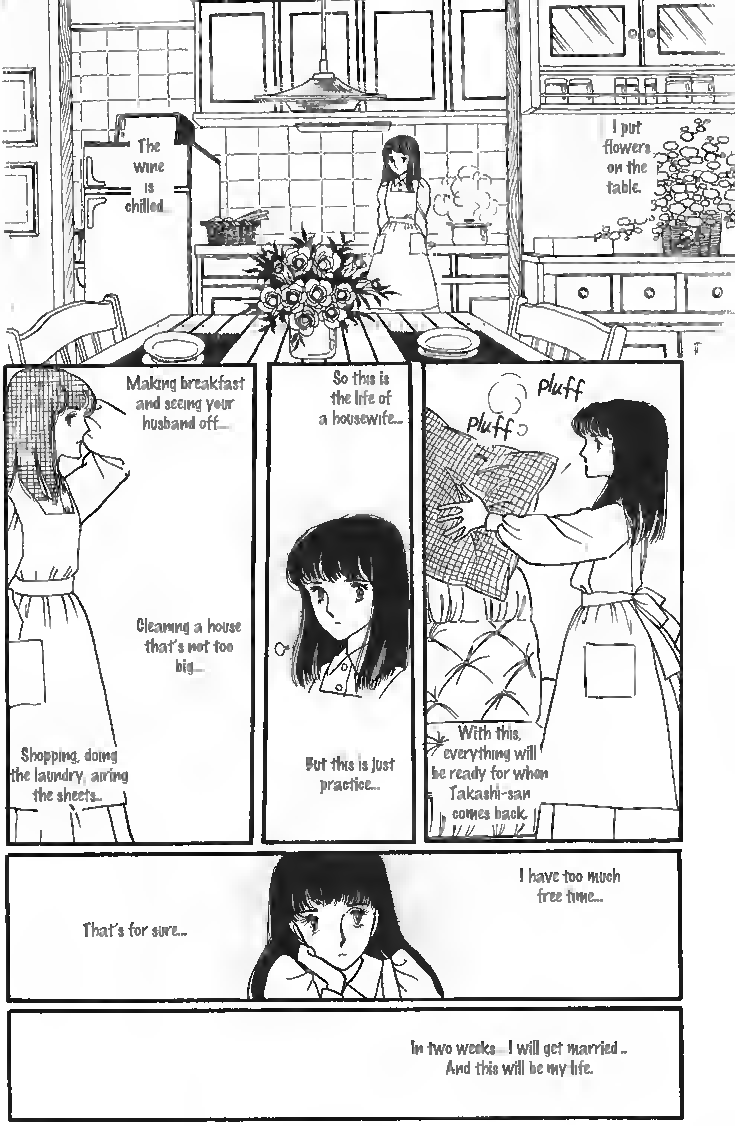

I WAS HESITANT
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?
If he would object to it -
If he would love me..!
Oh no!
I'm testing Kousuke!
HESITANT?


YES.
ARE YOU MARRYING THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT, WITH THE SKYLINE?
I DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE A WOMAN WHO WOULD ENTER INTO A MARRIAGE SO EASILY.
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN I DON'T CARE! YOU CAN GET MARRIED OR WHATEVER!
WE WON'T SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN! GOODBYE!


Keiko, you are an idiot!
Kick
Were you expecting him to tell you he loves you?
To Kousuke, you are nothing more than a friend...
Why did you have to say goodbye to him like that?

TAKA-SHI-SAN..
KEIKO-CHAN?
TELL ME YOU LOVE ME..
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
I MAY BE THE MOST STUPID GIRL IN THE WORLD, BUT...
I WANT YOU TO TELL ME YOU LOVE ME.
SAY IT TO ME!
WHAT... ARE YOU DRUNK?
HOW SILLY.

I LOVE YOU. I ALWAYS WILL...
I'LL BE GOOD WIFE...
ME TOO...
burble
burble
1976
burble
burble
Yeah... The taste is tolerable...
It's all thanks to my cooking lessons.
Farewell...
Kousuke...


The wine is chilled.
I put flowers on the table.
Making breakfast and seeing your husband off...
Cleaning a house that's not too big...
Shopping, doing the laundry, airing the sheets...
So this is the life of a housewife...
But this is just practice...
pluff
pluff
With this, everything will be ready for when Takashi-san comes back.
That's for sure...
I have too much free time...
In two weeks... I will get married... And this will be my life.

There is nothing to do here.
I feel like my brain is shrinking.
Takashi-san's old textbooks
Next to mine...
Whew...
Did I really read all these difficult things?
How could I forget...?
It was only half a year ago that I studied this...
How shameful
But now reading these books...
It's no use...
PLEASE~! GIVE ME YOUR SPOT AT THE TOP~!
BY THE TIME WE TAKE THE NATIONAL EXAMS, SHE WILL BE A BRIDE
They were right...

I'M SORRY, ARE YOU ALREADY BACK?
WAH!
Creak
I DOZED OFF WHILE I WAS WAITING FOR YOU TO COME HOME.
IT'S OK. YOU WERE TIRED, WEREN'T YOU?
NEXT SUNDAY LET'S GO BUY A SOFA.
I HEAR THEY HAVE IMPORTED SOME GOOD ONES MADE IN DENMARK. LET'S LOOK AT THEM.
It's midnight...
YOU'VE BEEN WORKING SO LATE.
I'VE BEEN THINKING OF TAKING A BREAK FROM WORK.
YOU MUST BE TIRED. YOU CAN EAT SOON.

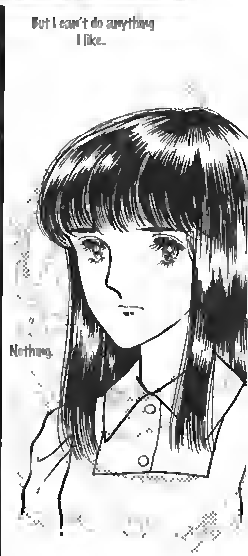
TAKA-SHI-SAN..
YES?
And am I the high quality wife that you chose for your house?
Furniture in good taste. Fine tableware...
All of it chosen by him...
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT ME WORKING?
HEY..
THAT'S NOT THE REASON.
I WANT TO DO MORE THAN JUST BE MARRIED.
NO NEED FOR THAT, MY INCOME IS PLENTY FOR BOTH OF US
I HAVE LOTS OF FREE TIME BEING ONLY A HOUSEWIFE
I COULD WORK IN THE GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE.

I DON'T WANT YOU TO BE BURDENED WITH THAT.
I WANT YOU TO BE A HAPPY WIFE.
I WILL DO ALL THE WORKING FOR YOU.

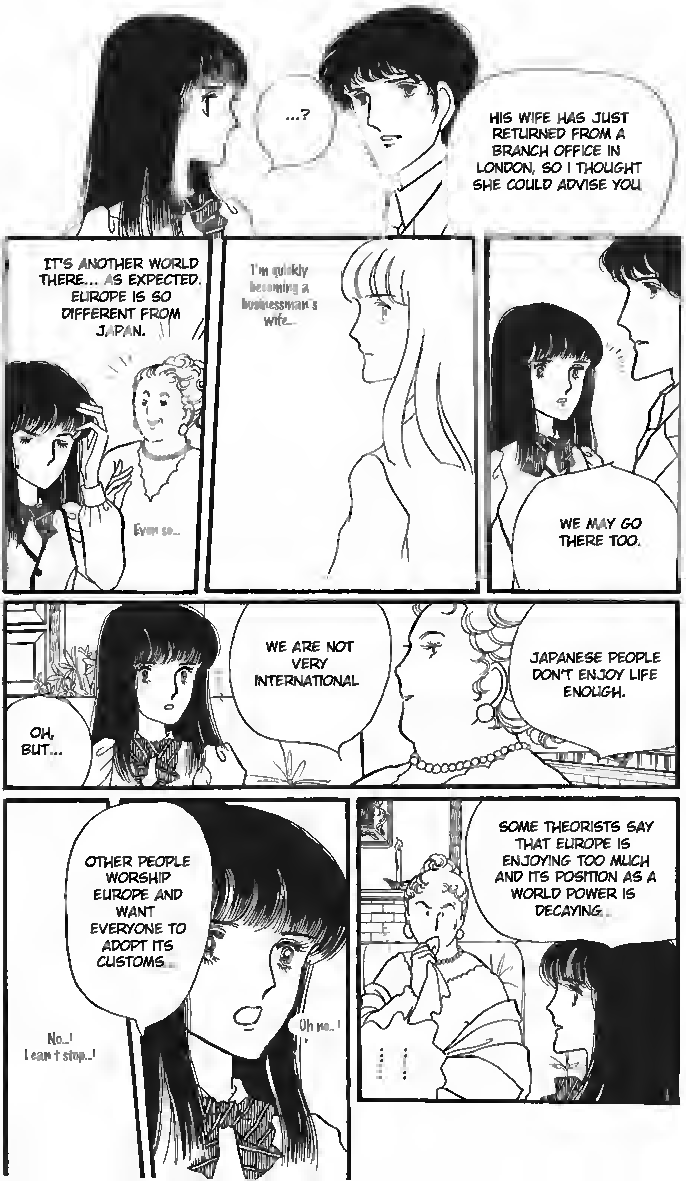
KEIKO ..
IF YOU DON'T WANT ME TO WORK, I CAN GO BACK TO UNIVERSITY AGAIN...

Takashi-san...
You enjoy work, don't you?

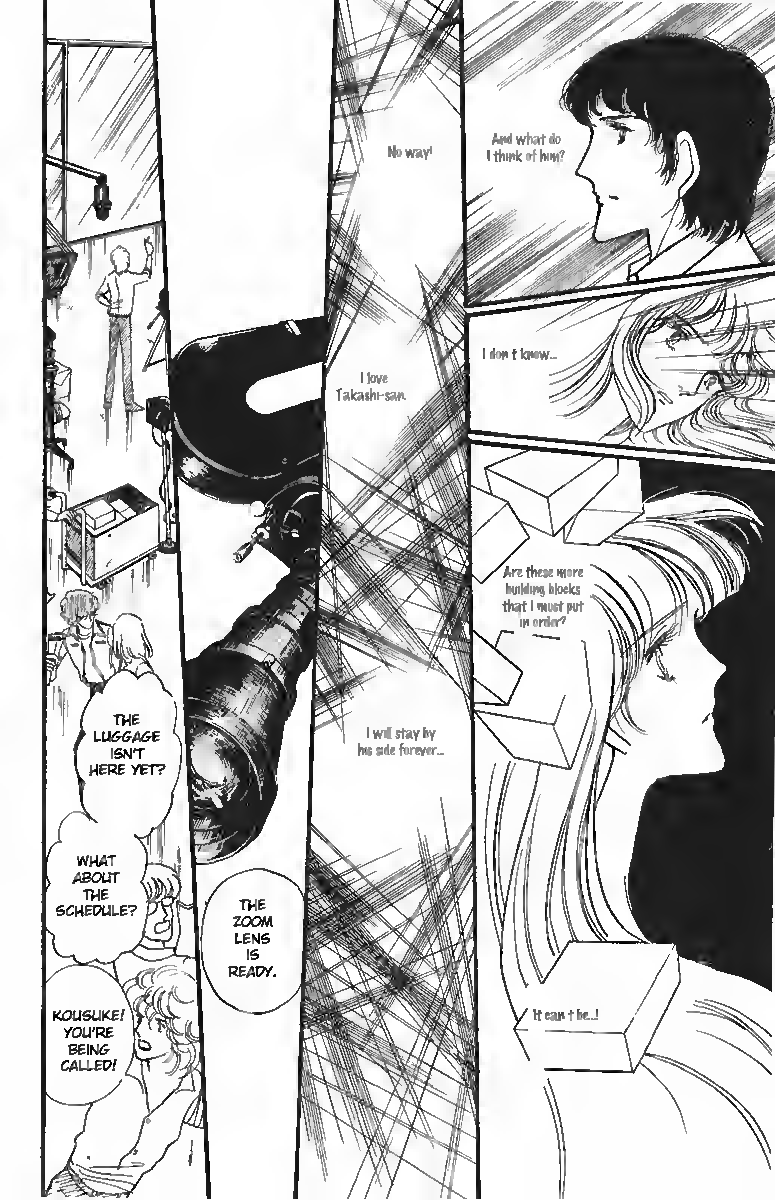
DON'T CRY, SILLY.
WHAT'S THE MATTER? THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU
WHAT IS IT?
NOTHING...


But I can't do anything I like..
Nothing.

If I stay in your gentle hands...
I will expire quickly..
Will I forever be..
in your hand..
One year beneath you?
I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING KURATA-SAN'S FIANCEE. I HEARD YOU WERE A BEAUTY
IT'S TRUE YOU MAKE A GOOD COUPLE IT'S AS IF A MATCHMAKER CHOSE YOU FOR EACH OTHER.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
KEIKO, I NEED TO TALK TO THE MANAGING DIRECTOR.
GO HELP HIS WIFE, PLEASE

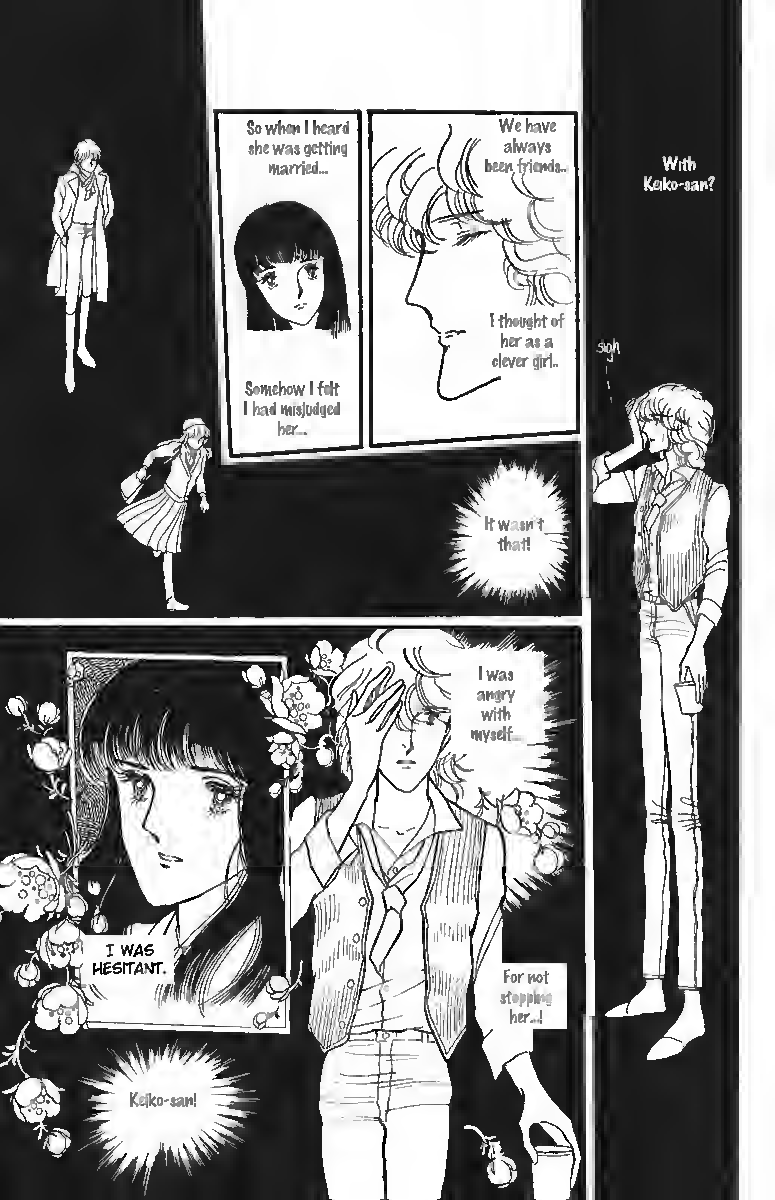

...?
HIS WIFE HAS JUST RETURNED FROM A BRANCH OFFICE IN LONDON, SO I THOUGHT SHE COULD ADVISE YOU.
IT'S ANOTHER WORLD THERE... AS EXPECTED. EUROPE IS SO DIFFERENT FROM JAPAN.
Even so...
I'm quickly becoming a businessman's wife...
WE MAY GO THERE TOO.
OH, BUT...
WE ARE NOT VERY INTERNATIONAL
JAPANESE PEOPLE DON'T ENJOY LIFE ENOUGH.
OTHER PEOPLE WORSHIP EUROPE AND WANT EVERYONE TO ADOPT ITS CUSTOMS...
No..! I can't stop..!
Oh no..!
SOME THEORISTS SAY THAT EUROPE IS ENJOYING TOO MUCH AND ITS POSITION AS A WORLD POWER IS DECAYING...
.....

YOUR WIFE IS MUCH SMARTER THAN THE RUMORS SAY.
DID YOU TWO QUARREL?
IF I HAD BEEN TRANSFERRED TO LONDON, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE QUICKEST ROAD TO A PROMOTION.
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT.
WHAT KIND OF PERSON DO YOU THINK I...
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE SO QUICK TO ARGUE.
YOU ACTED STUPIDLY.
YOU SHOULD HAVE IGNORED HER.
I THOUGHT THAT LATER, BUT...
What did Takashi-san think of me before?
I'M SORRY...
AH...


It can't be...!
Are these more building blocks that I must put in order?
I don't know...
And what do I think of him?
No way!
I love Takashi-san.
I will stay by his side forever...
THE LUGGAGE ISN'T HERE YET?
WHAT ABOUT THE SCHEDULE?
KOUSUKE! YOU'RE BEING CALLED!
THE ZOOM LENS IS READY.

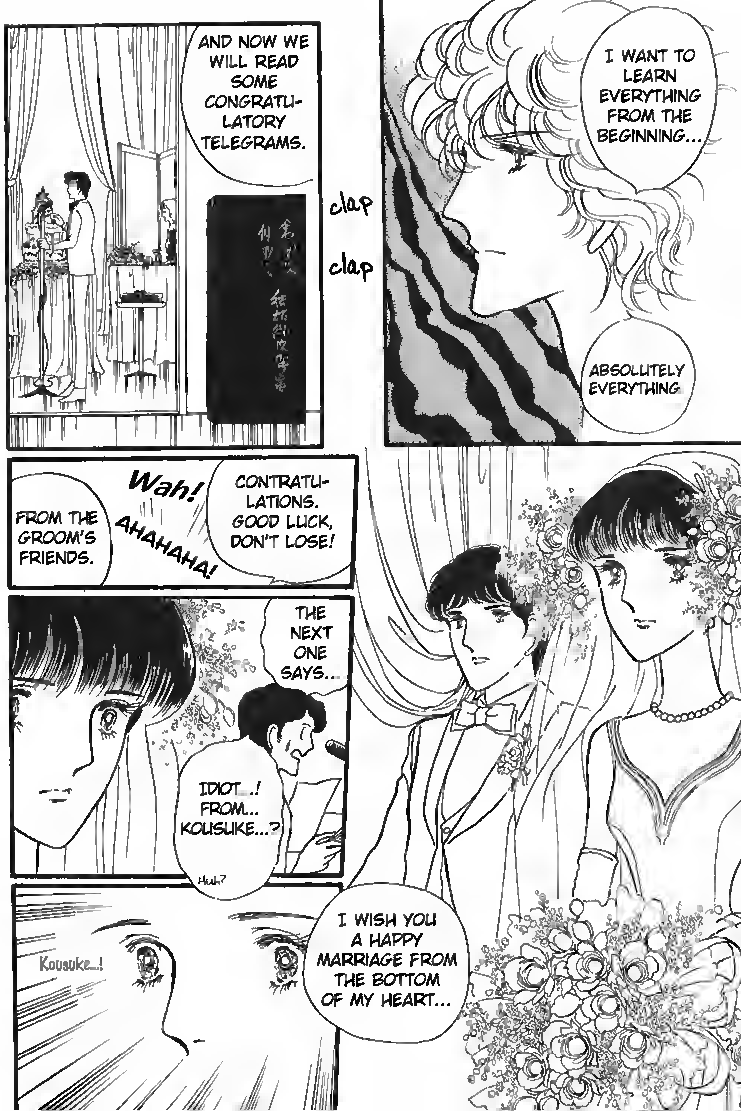
HE HAS BEEN PRACTISING INDEED
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT WHEN I SAW YOUR FILM.
I'M VERY GLAD.
IT'S UNFORTUNATE THAT NOWADAYS PEOPLE LIKE YOU CANNOT TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN THE MOVIE INDUSTRY.
THANKS A LOT.

AH, THAT...
SHE'S BASED ON A FRIEND FROM HIGH SCHOOL.
THE WOMAN WHO APPEARS IN YOUR MOVIE
SHE IS CLEVER, STRONG, AND CARING
THAT'S AN INTERESTING NEW TYPE.
BY THE WAY... IS THAT YOUR TYPE?
Keiko-san...
YOU ARE IN LOVE WITH HER, AREN'T YOU?
YES, I THOUGHT I WOULDN'T COMPLETELY FALL IN LOVE AGAIN, LIKE BEFORE.
NO, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT
WE ARE JUST FRIENDS, REALLY
SO IT'S NOT LIKE THAT. WELL, IT'S NOT SOMETHING THAT HAPPENS EVERY DAY


With Keiko-san?
sigh
We have always been friends..
I thought of her as a clever girl..
So when I heard she was getting married...
Somehow I felt I had misjudged her...
It wasn't that!
I was angry with myself...
For not stopping her...!
I WAS HESITANT.
Keiko-san!

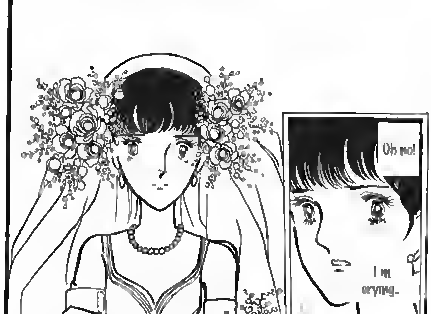
OH, I'M JUST A HOUSE-SITTER.
EVERYONE IS AT THE WEDDING...
HELLO, NAKAAKI RESIDENCE.
R-R-R-R-R...
Wedding?!
I WANT TO SEND A TELEGRAM.
SURE
HELLO...?
WHO IS THIS?
SLAM

Dialing
NO... JUST THAT IS ENOUGH.
OH? IS THIS ALL? IT COSTS 300 YEN TO SEND UP TO 25 CHARACTERS, YOU CAN WRITE MORE
DAD?
IT'S ME
YES, SORRY... HOW ARE YOU?
BY THE WAY...
...!
DON'T BE SO SURPRISED
I'M THINKING ABOLIT GOING TO ITALY TO STUDY CINEMA.
IT'S OK... I'LL BE WORKING, SO I'LL MANAGE.
DON'T WORRY, OK.


I WANT TO LEARN EVERYTHING FROM THE BEGINNING...
ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING
AND NOW WE WILL READ SOME CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAMS.
clap
clap
CONTRATULATIONS. GOOD LUCK, DON'T LOSE!
Wah!
AHAHAHA!
FROM THE GROOM'S FRIENDS.
THE NEXT ONE SAYS...
IDIOT...! FROM... KOUSUKE...?
Huh?
Kousuke...!
I WISH YOU A HAPPY MARRIAGE FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART...

HA HA HA
HA HA
HA HA, HE MUST BE SUCH A JOKER.
Idiot...!
Kousuke...
School, this wedding.
None of them were my choice...
This isn't the life I would have chosen for myself...!
You are right...
It's as if I've just woken up and now I see where I am...
I can!
Something so simple... And I haven't done it until now...
Keiko, you are really an idiot...
Kousuke...

OH, KEIKO-SAN.
THE WINE IS ONLY FOR DECORATION, RIGHT?
THE BRIDE SHOULDN'T EAT TOO MUCH.

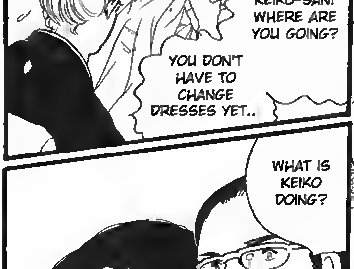

Oh no!
I'm crying.

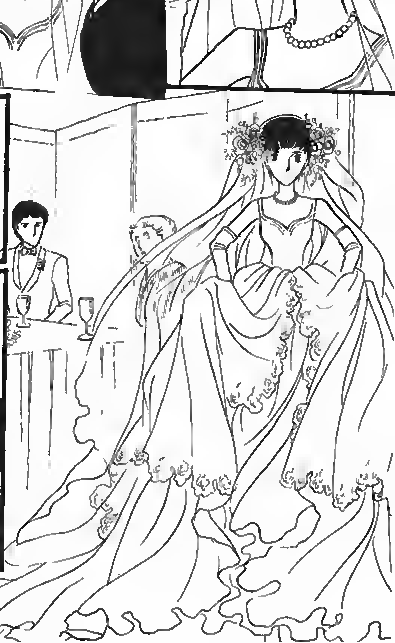
rattle

....
....
clink

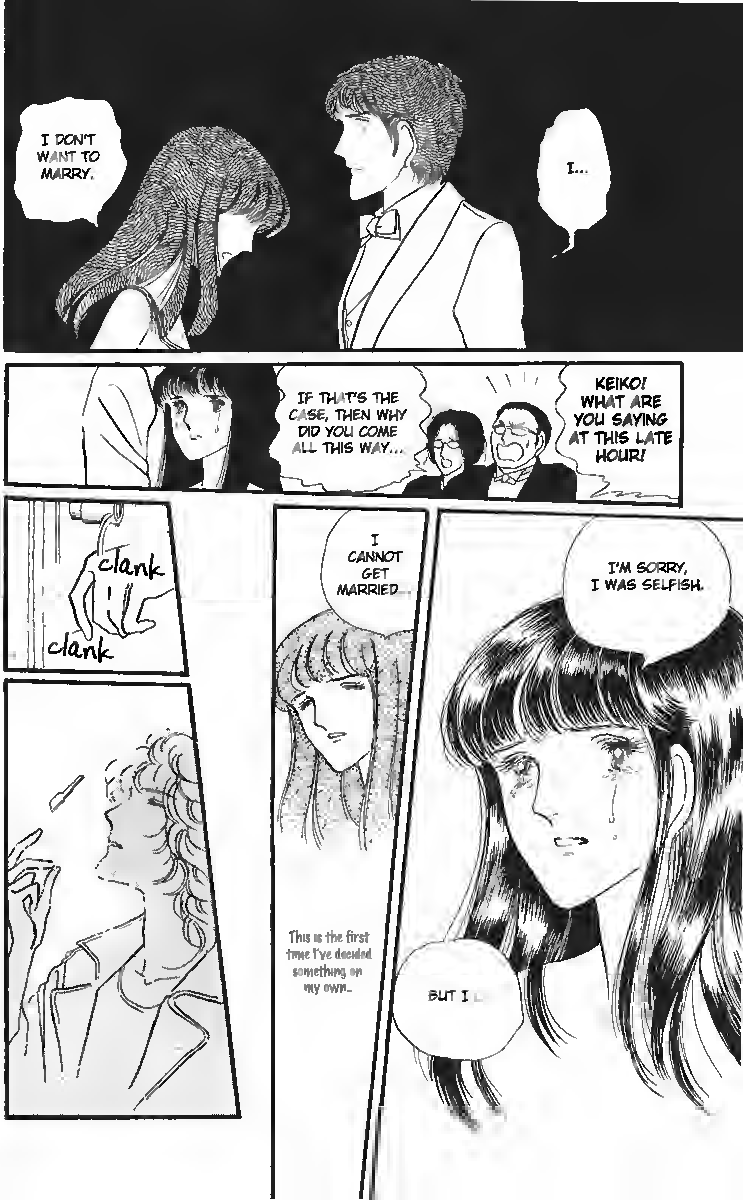
GULP

KEIKO-SAN! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO CHANGE DRESSES YET..


WHAT IS KEIKO DOING?



KEIKO! WHAT HAPPENED!
OPEN THE DOOR!
...
creak...
KEIKO? I'M COMING IN.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
ARE YOU NOT FEELING WELL?
IT'S NOT THAT, TAKASHI-SAN...
THE TRUTH IS...
I...
I'M SORRY...


I DON'T WANT TO MARRY.
I...
KEIKO! WHAT ARE YOU SAYING AT THIS LATE HOUR!
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN WHY DID YOU COME ALL THIS WAY...
clank
clank
I CANNOT GET MARRIED...
This is the first time I've decided something on my own.
I'M SORRY, I WAS SELFISH.
BUT I...

I'm ready..
I'm leaving..
Goodbye, Keiko-san.
We always miss each other.
This will put an end to that
Maybe it was inevitable, right?

Aiiro Shinwa Chapter 3

Translated by Otohime

Edited by Jc

Proofread by Maris

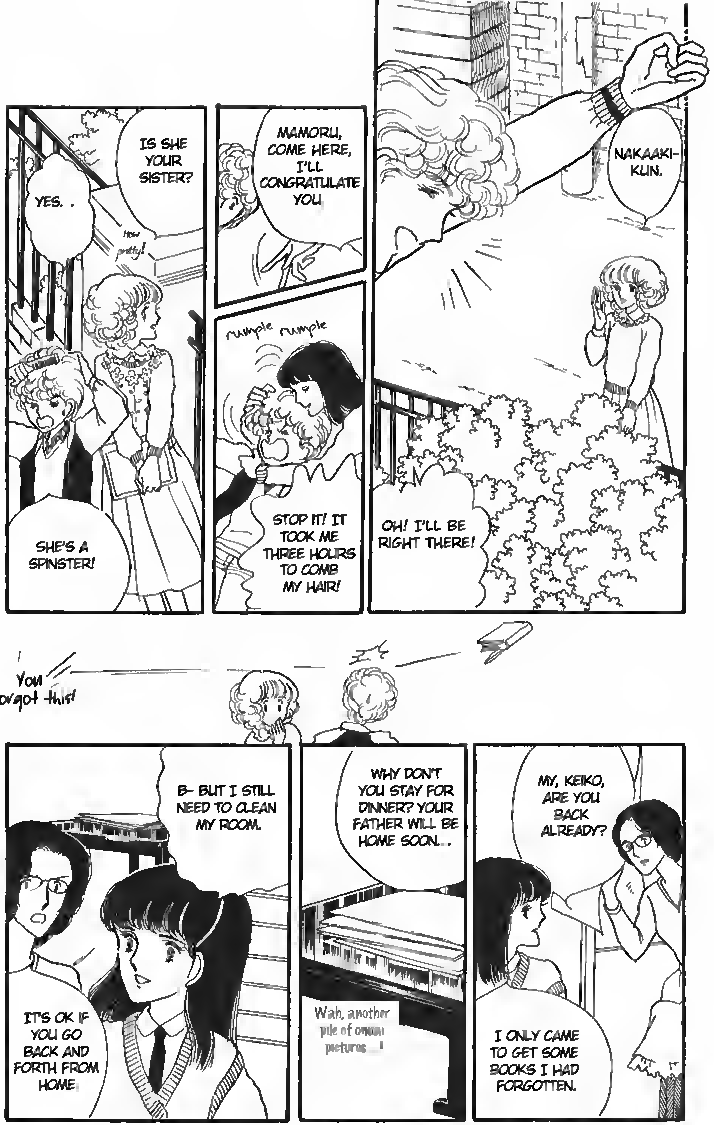
QC by Otohime

Barcarolle
http://barcarolle.wordpress.com/

Chapter 4: 1980

THIS ONE, THIS. .
AND THIS...
1980
AH, SISTER, YOU'RE BACK?
MAMORU
WHAT'S WITH THAT HUSKY VOICE?
OH YES? HOW CHEEKY. .
A CHANGE OF VOICE?
IT'S A CHANGE OF VOICE.

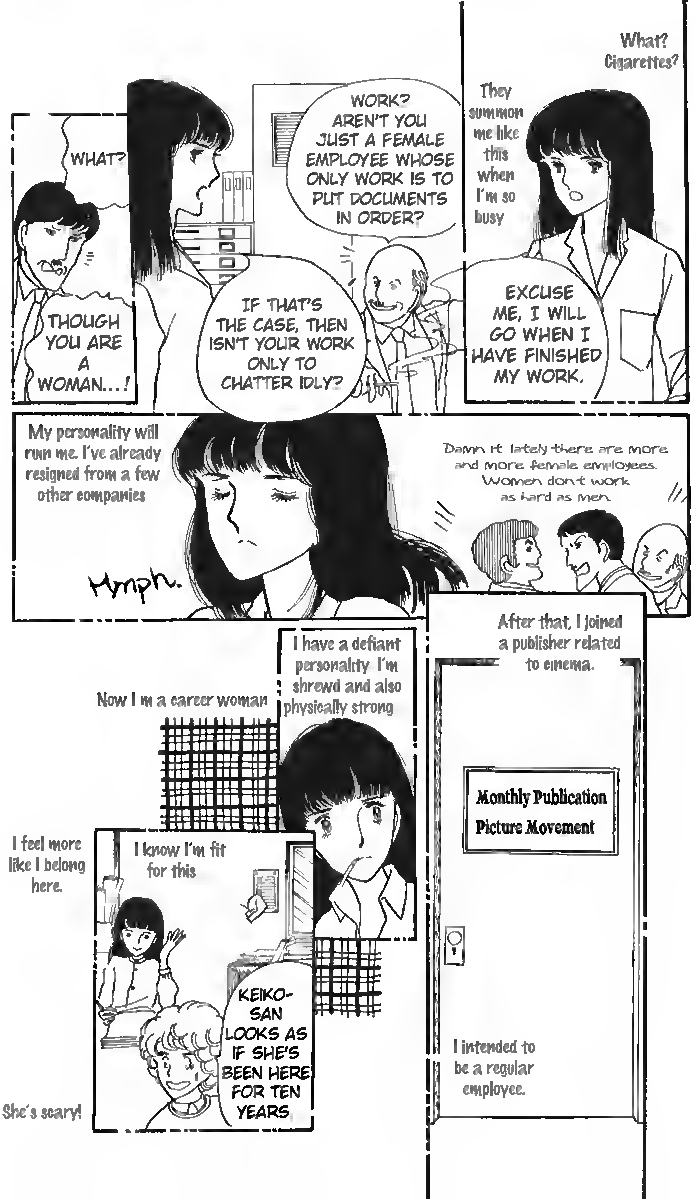
EVENTUALLY IT WILL BECOME A WONDERFUL TENOR VOICE
DON'T BE MEAN, I'M IN MY SECOND YEAR OF JUNIOR HIGH.
Note: Meri Shinichi is an enka singer who debuted in 1966 with Onna no Tame ki (Sigh of a Woman)
NO.. HE IS A MIDDLE-AGED MAN. .
I WOULD LIKE TO BE LIKE MONTA-SAN
MY, MY...
OR MAYBE MORI SHINICHI.
Note: Mino Monta is a television presenter who began his television career in 1979 reporting on baseball for Fuji TV
WEREN'T YOU PAID YESTERDAY?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I'M A POOR OFFICE LADY
I'M WAITING FOR MY PRESENT TO COMMEMORATE MY CHANGE OF VOICE
WHAT'S WITH THAT HAND?
Second year of junior high..
He was so small just a while ago
THEN WEAR SOME JIKA-TABI
I CAN'T BUY THE SNEAKERS WITH THIS!!
Note: Jika-tabi are a type of workers' footwear worn in Japan modeled after traditional split-toe Japanese socks

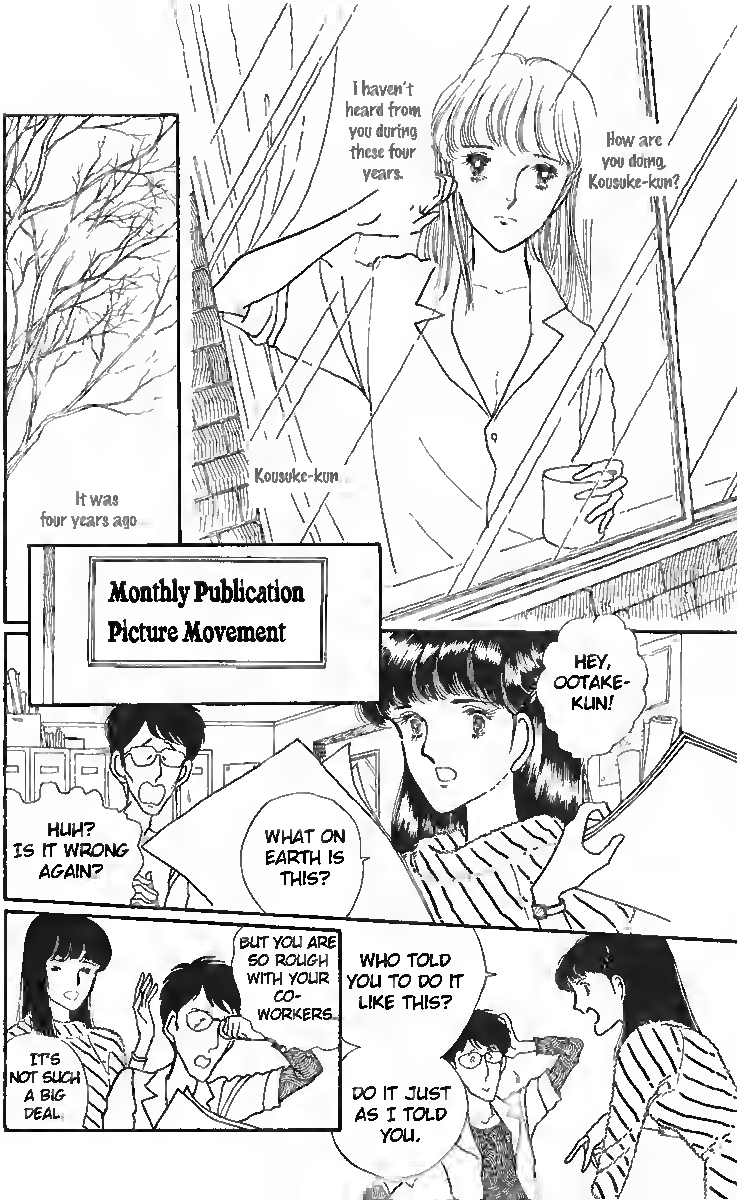

NAKAAKI-KUN.
OH! I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!
MAMORU, COME HERE, I'LL CONGRATULATE YOU.
rumple rumple
STOP IT! IT TOOK ME THREE HOURS TO COMB MY HAIR!
IS SHE YOUR SISTER?
how pretty!
YES. .
SHE'S A SPINSTER!
You forgot this!
MY, KEIKO, ARE YOU BACK ALREADY?
I ONLY CAME TO GET SOME BOOKS I HAD FORGOTTEN.
WHY DON'T YOU STAY FOR DINNER? YOUR FATHER WILL BE HOME SOON...
Wah, another pile of omiai pictures...!
B- BUT I STILL NEED TO CLEAN MY ROOM.
IT'S OK IF YOU GO BACK AND FORTH FROM HOME.

Note: Omiai is a Japanese custom in which unmarried individuals are introduced to each other to consider the possibility of marriage

I WILL COME BACK ANOTHER DAY.
A GIRL WHO'S NOT YET MARRIED. .
IT'S A BIT FAR AWAY FROM THE COMPANY, BUT. .
It's natural. It's already been four years since that incident.
My parents are so annoying. .
Don't want to get married!
clackity clack
It was terrible.
There was so much uproar afterwards.
And. .

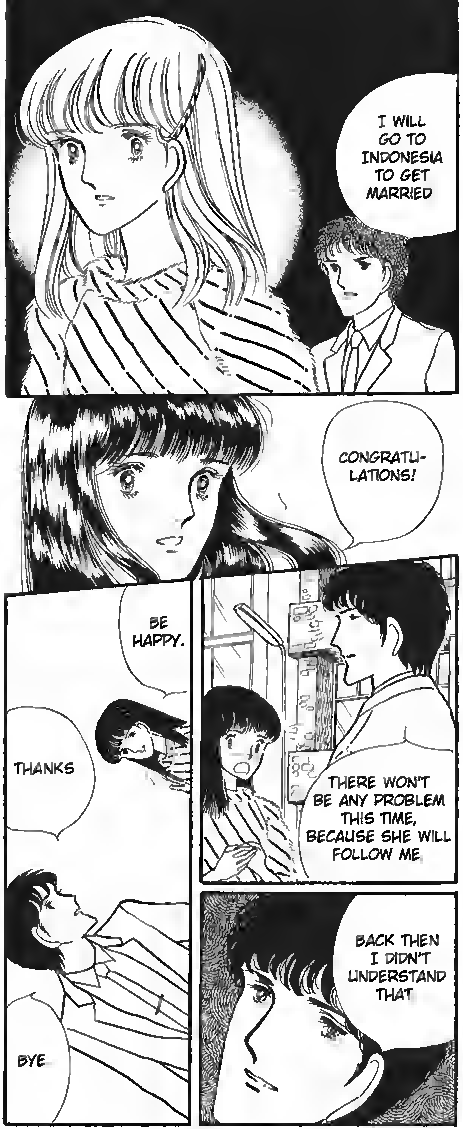
But I only saw two options...
Thinking back on it, he was indulgent...
Kurata
I tried going to his apartment
I couldn't stay home doing nothing...
So I tried to find employment...
CAN YOU GO BUY ME SOME CIGARETTES?
PLEASE,
AND GET ME TEA.
WHAT IS IT?
HEY, NAKAAKI-SAN.
YES.
NAKAAKI-SAN.

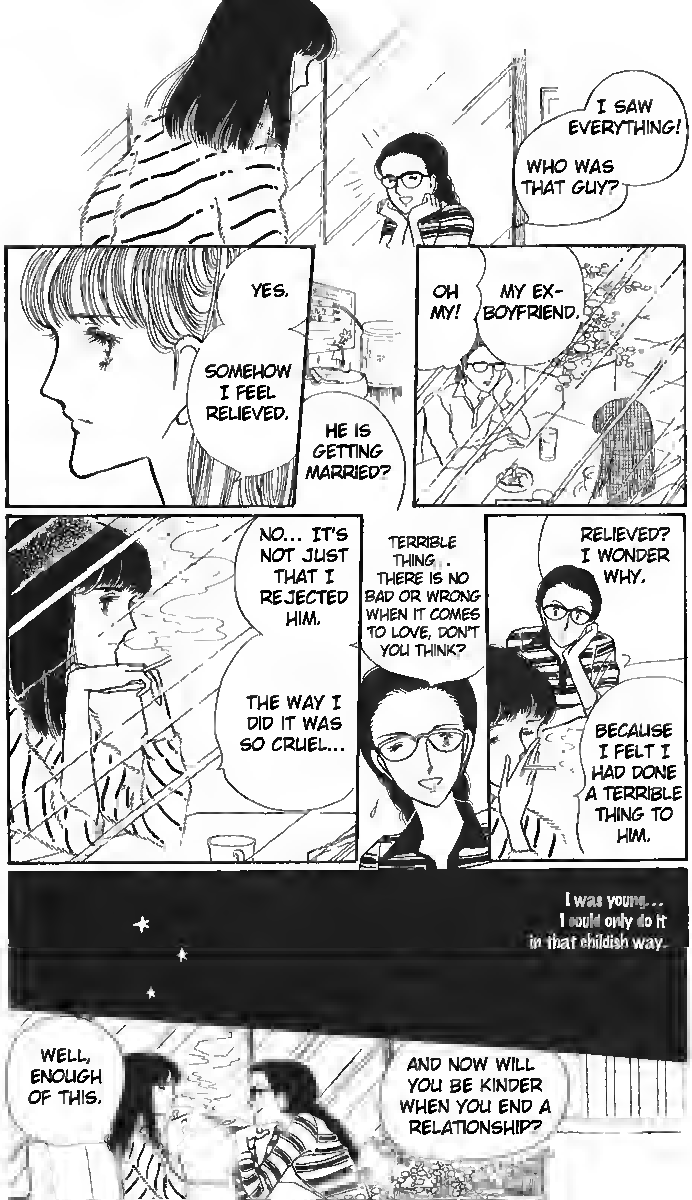

What? Cigarettes?
They summon me like this when I'm so busy
EXCUSE ME, I WILL GO WHEN I HAVE FINISHED MY WORK.
WORK? AREN'T YOU JUST A FEMALE EMPLOYEE WHOSE ONLY WORK IS TO PUT DOCUMENTS IN ORDER?
WHAT?
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN ISN'T YOUR WORK ONLY TO CHATTER IDLY?
THOUGH YOU ARE A WOMAN...!
My personality will ruin me. I've already resigned from a few other companies
Hmph.
Damn it lately there are more and more female employees. Women don't work as hard as men
After that, I joined a publisher related to cinema.
Monthly Publication Picture Movement
I intended to be a regular employee.
I have a defiant personality I'm shrewd and also physically strong
Now I m a career woman
I feel more like I belong here.
I know I'm fit for this
KEIKO-SAN LOOKS AS IF SHE'S BEEN HERE FOR TEN YEARS
She's scary!


I haven't heard from you during these four years.
How are you doing, Kousuke-kun?
Kousuke-kun...
It was four years ago...
Monthly Publication
Picture Movement
HEY, OOTAKE-KUN!
WHAT ON EARTH IS THIS?
HUH? IS IT WRONG AGAIN?
WHO TOLD YOU TO DO IT LIKE THIS?
DO IT JUST AS I TOLD YOU.
BUT YOU ARE SO ROUGH WITH YOUR CO-WORKERS.
IT'S NOT SUCH A BIG DEAL.

REALLY?
IF I BECOME EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, I WILL RAISE YOUR SALARY.
Did she win again?
OK... THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
I won...
I'LL LEAVE IT IN YOUR HANDS.
WELL, I WOULDN'T SAY THAT.
I WAS FLATTERED INTO IT AGAIN!
WAH!
GIVE UP, KEIKO-SAN IS SO OBSTINATE.
AREN'T YOU COMING TO EAT, KEIKO-SAN?
OK I'M GOING TO SEND THESE LETTERS FIRST.
I WANT A HAMBURGER AND COFFEE

Kurata-san...
HELLO THIS IS AN UNEXPECTED MEETING ISN'T IT?
HOW ARE YOU?
THIS TIME...
I'M GOING TO MARRY...

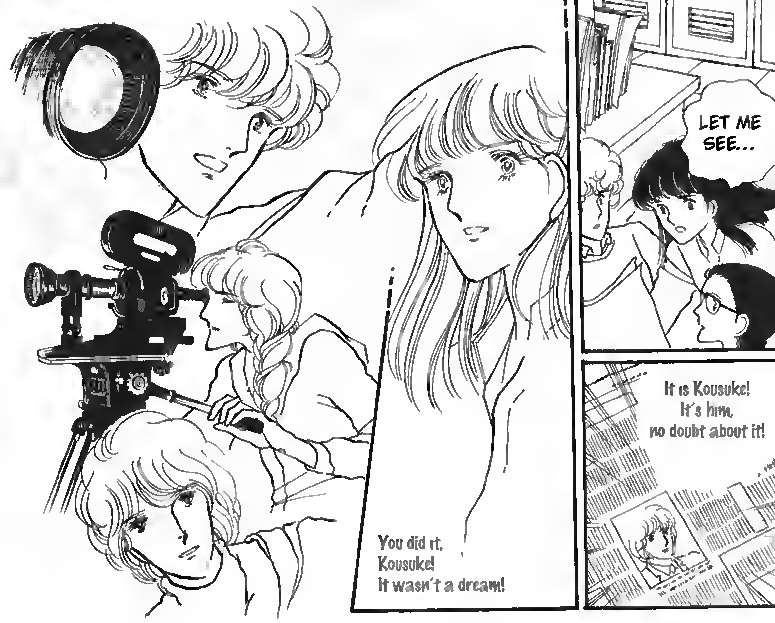

I WILL GO TO INDONESIA TO GET MARRIED
CONGRATU-LATIONS!
THERE WON'T BE ANY PROBLEM THIS TIME, BECAUSE SHE WILL FOLLOW ME
BACK THEN I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THAT
BE HAPPY.
THANKS
BYE


I SAW EVERYTHING!
WHO WAS THAT GUY?
OH MY!
MY EX-BOYFRIEND.
YES.
SOMEHOW I FEEL RELIEVED.
HE IS GETTING MARRIED?
RELIEVED? I WONDER WHY.
BECAUSE I FELT I HAD DONE A TERRIBLE THING TO HIM.
TERRIBLE THING. THERE IS NO BAD OR WRONG WHEN IT COMES TO LOVE, DON'T YOU THINK?
NO... IT'S NOT JUST THAT I REJECTED HIM.
THE WAY I DID IT WAS SO CRUEL...
I was young... I could only do it in that childish way.
AND NOW WILL YOU BE KINDER WHEN YOU END A RELATIONSHIP?
WELL, ENOUGH OF THIS.

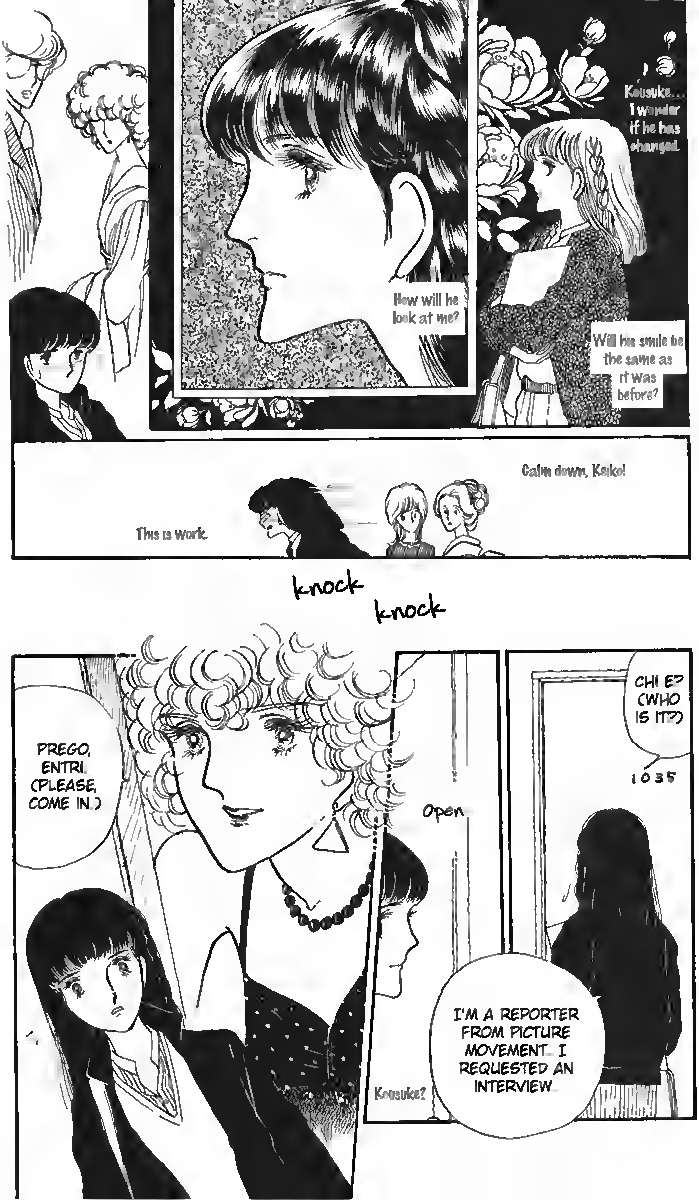
He will marry again happily.
Four years have passed
How have you spent all this time?
Kousuke
Ohhh...
Clap
clap
clap
clap
clap
clap
clap
clap

Rattle
OH!
KOU-SUKE!
EVERYONE HAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO WIN.
VITTORE! (WINNER!)
The special award of the Milan Film Festival!

I did it!
I did it!
TAKE A LOOK AT THE NEWSPAPER.
MAYBE AN ITALIAN COULD HAVE THAT NAME
HEY, THE SPECIAL AWARD AT THE MILAN FILM FESTIVAL...
THE DIRECTOR'S NAME SOUNDS JAPANESE
KOUSUKE MIMASAKA...
OH MY! IT'S TRUE, HE IS JAPANESE!
Kousuke Mimasaka!
It's Kousuke!


You did it, Kousuke! It wasn't a dream!
LET ME SEE...
It is Kousuke! It's him, no doubt about it!

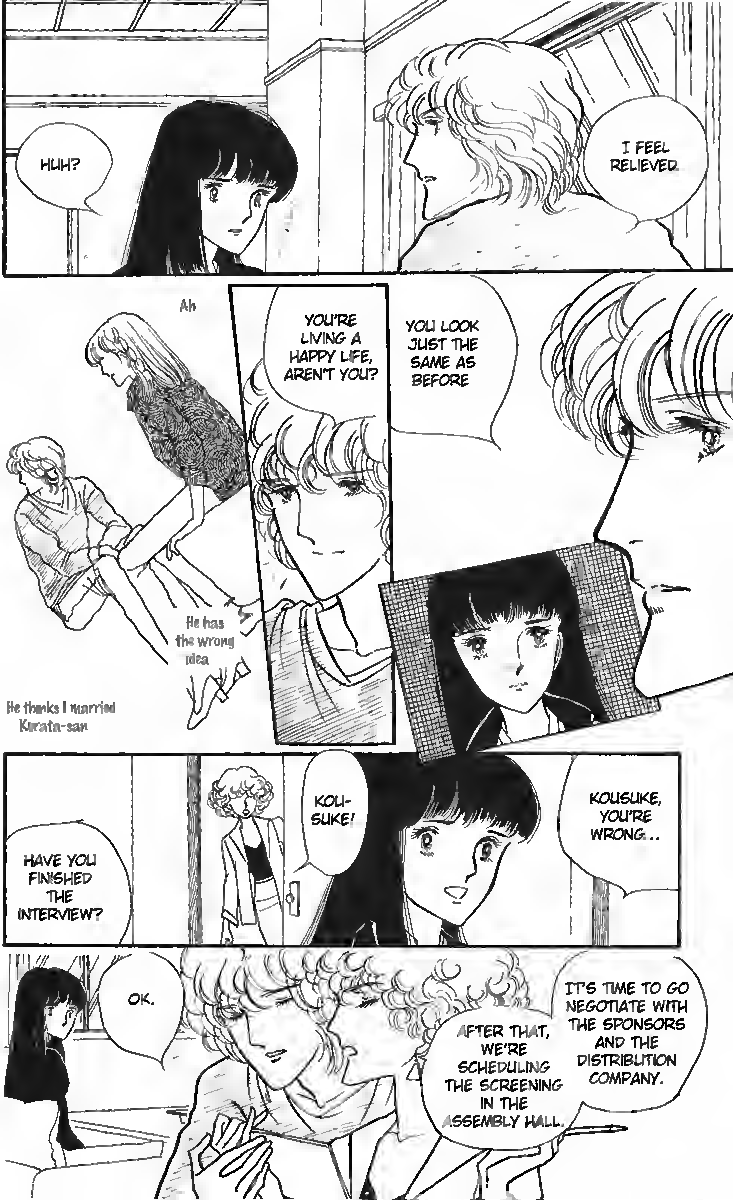
EVEN THE CRITICS ARE GIVING HIM UNANIMOUS PRAISE...
SHARP SENSATIONS AND BEAUTIFUL IMAGES...!
THERE IS A SCREENING SCHEDULED IN JAPAN, IN KYOUDOU MEETING HALL.
I want to see you soon... Kousuke!
I want to see your smile!
HOTEL
Oh no I'm so nervous...
I had to be a little pushy to be able to do this interview with Kousuke.


Kousuke... I wonder if he has changed.
Will his smile be the same as it was before?
How will he look at me?
Calm down, Keiko!
This is work.
knock knock
CHI E? (WHO IS IT?)
1035
Open
I'M A REPORTER FROM PICTURE MOVEMENT. I REQUESTED AN INTERVIEW.
Kousuke?
PREGO, ENTRI. (PLEASE, COME IN.)

EXCUSE ME . WHERE IS KOUSUKE MIMASAKA?
WAIT A MOMENT.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
AH, WELL.. I'M NAKAAKI KEIKO
DON'T MIND HIM, MISS.
AN INTERVIEW? WHEN DID I AGREE TO THAT?
I'M NOT AN ACTOR.
HEY!! DON'T BE SO IRRESPONSIBLE
OH! KEIKO?
WAIT A MOMENT, OK? I'LL GO WAKE HIM RIGHT NOW.
KOUSUKE!
GET UP, KEIKO-SAN IS HERE TO INTERVIEW YOU.
I'LL THROW YOU INTO THE SHOWER IF YOU KEEP COMPLAINING!
SHUT UP!

KEIKO IS A COMMON NAME IN JAPAN, I GUESS AN ITALIAN WOULDN'T KNOW THAT
I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE MEETING LIKE THIS
HI...

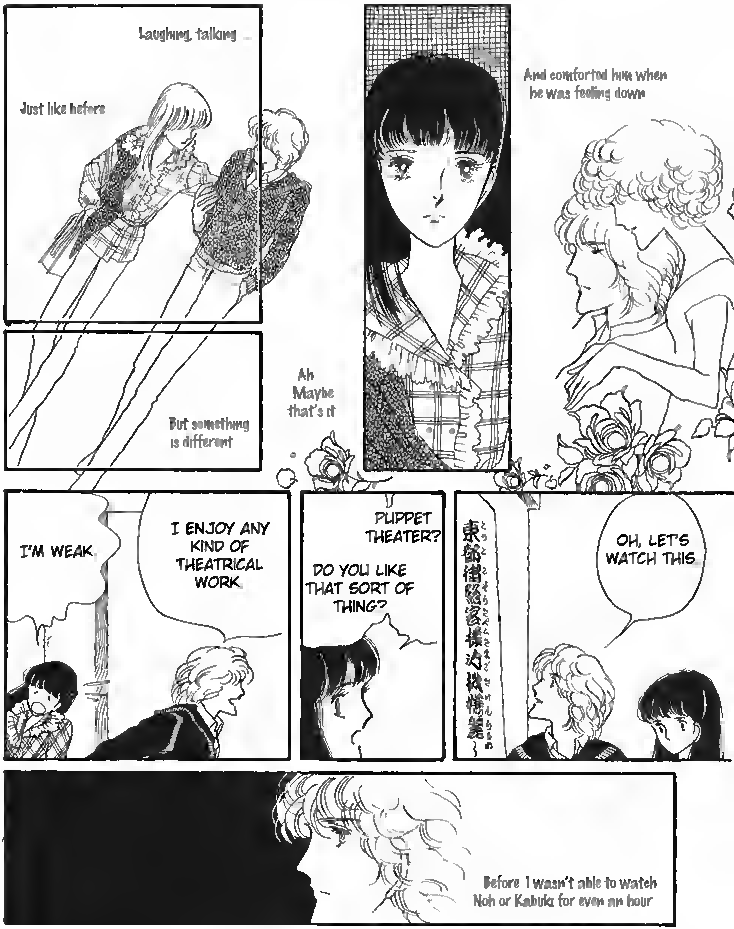
Note: The Umbrellas of Cherbourg is a French film made in 1964. A man is called to war, and when he returns he discovers that his lover has married a rich man. The two lovers briefly meet again some years later.


I FEEL RELIEVED.
HUH?
YOU LOOK JUST THE SAME AS BEFORE
YOU'RE LIVING A HAPPY LIFE, AREN'T YOU?
Ah
He has the wrong idea.
He thinks I married Kurata-san
KOUSUKE, YOU'RE WRONG...
KOU-SUKE!
HAVE YOU FINISHED THE INTERVIEW?
IT'S TIME TO GO NEGOTIATE WITH THE SPONSORS AND THE DISTRIBUTION COMPANY.
AFTER THAT, WE'RE SCHEDULING THE SCREENING IN THE ASSEMBLY HALL.
OK.

You've become so grown-up...
I'LL LET YOU KNOW WHEN THE DETAILS OF THE SCREENING ARE FINALIZED.
Kousuke...
YOU'LL BE ABLE TO GO SINCE YOU'LL BE WRITING AN ARTICLE.
I have lived four years without seeing Kousuke...
KEIKO-SAN, YOU HAVE A CALL.

KOUSUKE!
WHAT?
YOU WANT A DATE WITH ME?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I'M WORKING RIGHT NOW.
I DON'T FINISH UNTIL FIVE O'CLOCK
AND YOU SHOULD BE DOING THE SAME.
And I was just praising how grown-up he'd become...
WHERE ARE YOU NOW?
WHAT? THE PUBLIC TELEPHONE OUTSIDE?
COLLEGE HAS ALSO CHANGED.
IT LOOKS LIKE THE WEST COAST.

IN OUR TIME, WE STILL WORE WOODEN CLOGS.
SOMEHOW, ALL OF THAT SEEMS TO BE SLOWLY DISAPPEARING...
ARE YOU SURE YOU CAN BE HERE? AREN'T YOU VERY BUSY?
I LEFT EVERY-THING UP TO MY PARTNER.
I HAVE NO INTEREST IN THAT STUFF.
PARTNER? YOU MEAN...
YES... TONIA.
EVEN THOUGH SHE'S A WOMAN, SHE'S A CAMERAMAN.
SHE'S A GOOD PERSON. WHEN I WENT TO ROME I DIDN'T SPEAK ANY ITALIAN YET.
She looked after him,
and encouraged him.


Laughing, talking ...
Just like before
But something is different
Ah Maybe that's it
And comforted him when he was feeling down
I'M WEAK.
I ENJOY ANY KIND OF THEATRICAL WORK.
PUPPET THEATER?
DO YOU LIKE THAT SORT OF THING?
東銀座歌舞伎座演劇博覧会
OH, LET'S WATCH THIS.
Before I wasn't able to watch Noh or Kabuki for even an hour

"Men and women mustn't guard themselves
against this thing called love."
THAT WAS GREAT!
KOU-SUKE?
clap
clap
clap
You're standing at the top, reaching out to touch the distant stars
You are standing at the top after all your efforts, Kousuke...
AS EXPECTED, THERE ARE WONDERFUL PERFORMERS EVERYWHERE YOU GO.
YOU HAVE TO MAKE GREAT EFFORTS ON YOUR OWN, CREATING SOMETHING YOURSELF...
You were able to do something that seemed impossible before.
WHEN YOU LOOK UP AT THE TOP, YOU SEE THERE'S STILL A LONG WAY TO GO.

WE DRANK LIKE THIS THAT TIME...
THE LAST TIME WE MET..
YES...
WHEN YOU TOLD ME.. YOU WERE GOING TO GET MARRIED
I'D LIKE TO TURN BACK TIME.
OK.
Kousuke...

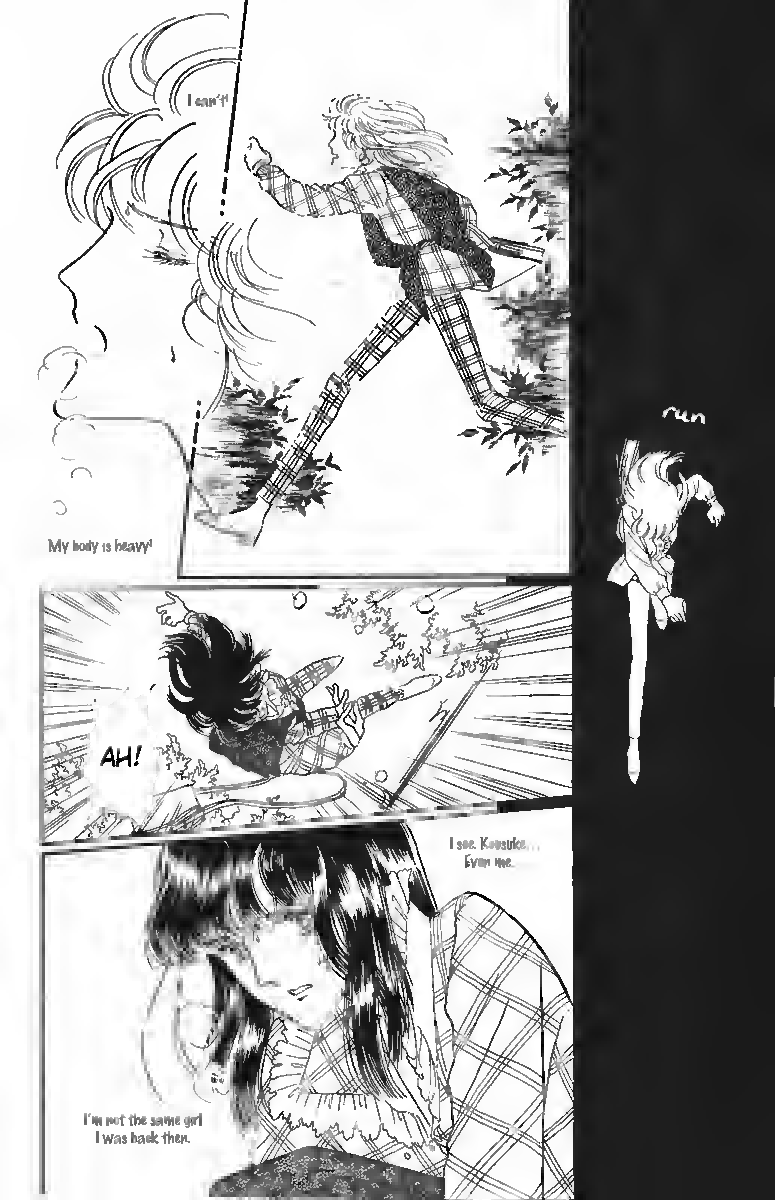
TIME! STOP!
NO, TURN BACK!
This guy is so...
GREAT! LET'S GO!
WE'VE GONE BACK FOUR YEARS.
OK...
The words you didn't say... That hurt me so much...
OK...
Kousuke...
TONIGHT... I WANT TO BE WITH YOU.
FOREVER...
The words...
I could have said that time..

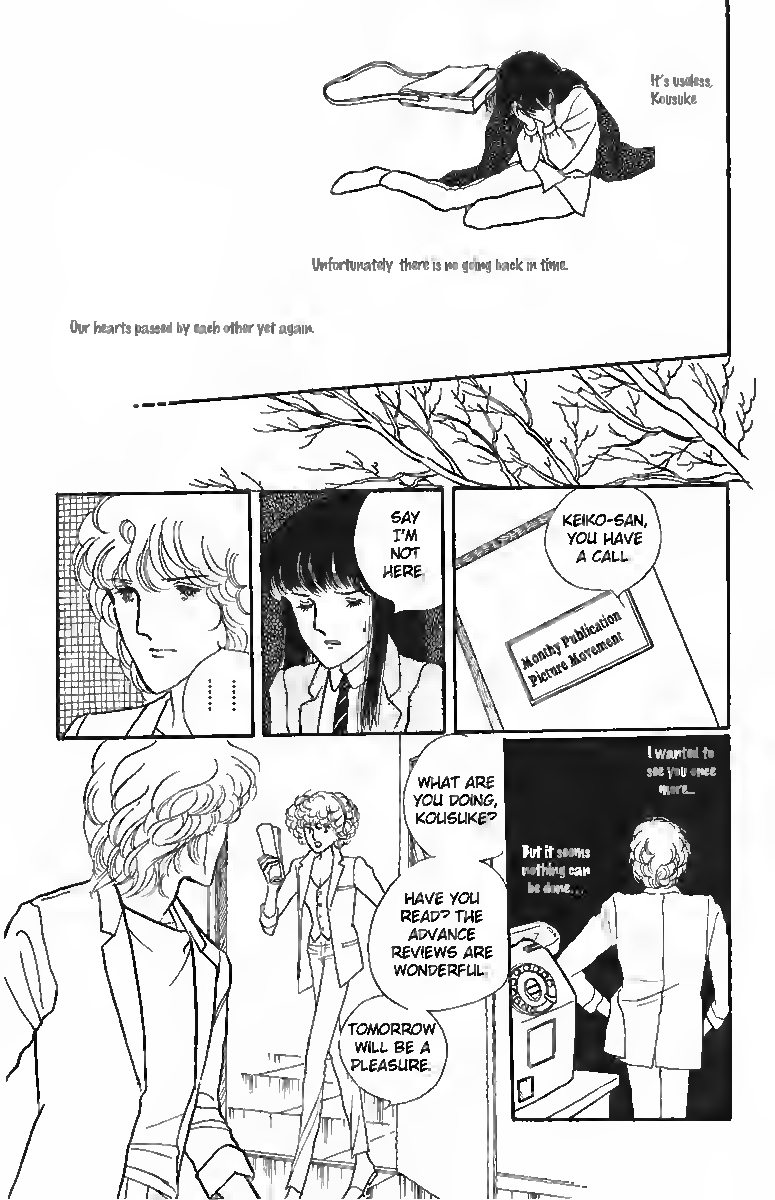
Maybe I loved you from the beginning
From that first moment I saw you
From that time when I saw you in the park that night, running like the wind, in your navy blue uniform.
I've fallen in love with you many times over
All through these ten years
Maybe you've made me fall in love with you continuously.
And this time, finally

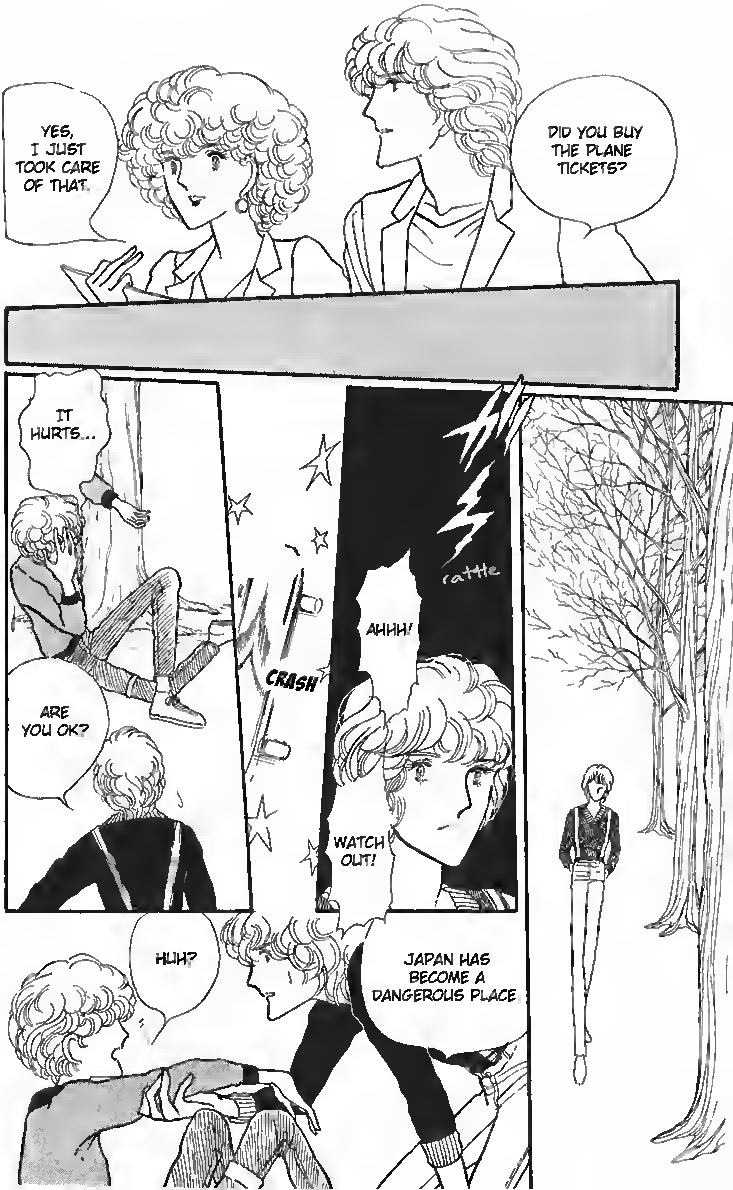
GOOD MORNING
I WISH WE COULD STAY LIKE THIS FOREVER.
I see. I haven't yet told him about what happened with Kurata-san...
BY THE WAY, KOUSUKE, I...

MY PARTNER SAYS SHE WANTS TO COME WITH ME.
I DON'T HAVE APPROVAL TO WORK IN JAPAN YET.
Kousuke!
WHEN THE SCREENING IS FINISHED, I WILL GO BACK TO ITALY
That woman
I'M...
GOING HOME...
Kousuke hasn't spent these last four years alone...
I see...
Clatter

I'LL TAKE YOU HOME
DON'T LOOK
GOODBYE
THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY, I'LL FIND A TAXI
Goodbye Keiko-san.
Seeing you again in Japan...
Destiny is so cruel...


I can't!
My body is heavy!
run
AH!
I see. Kawasuke... Even me.
I'm not the same girl I was back then.


It's useless, Kousuke
Unfortunately there is no going back in time.
Our hearts passed by each other yet again.
SAY I'M NOT HERE.
KEIKO-SAN, YOU HAVE A CALL.
Monthly Publication Picture Movement
I wanted to see you once more...
But it seems nothing can be done...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, KOUSUKE?
HAVE YOU READ? THE ADVANCE REVIEWS ARE WONDERFUL.
TOMORROW WILL BE A PLEASURE.


YES, I JUST TOOK CARE OF THAT.
DID YOU BUY THE PLANE TICKETS?
IT HURTS...
ARE YOU OK?
CRASH
rattle
AHHH!
WATCH OUT!
HUH?
JAPAN HAS BECOME A DANGEROUS PLACE

I'M MAMORU.
AH! KEIKO'S LITTLE BROTHER?
THE MONSTER ONII-CHAN!
EH?
MIMASAKA-SAN, RIGHT? MY SISTER'S FRIEND.
I'M IN JUNIOR HIGH.
OH... YOU'VE GROWN SO MUCH.
BUT YOUR SISTER IS HAPPY NOW, ISN'T SHE?
YES, SINCE SHE'S ALONE, SHE CAN BE CAREFREE.
IT'S TRUE, I LIKE YOU BETTER THAN KURATA-SAN.
MIMASAKA-SAN, YOU WON AN AWARD, RIGHT? THAT'S GREAT.
IF MY SISTER HAD MARRIED YOU, I COULD BRAG ABOUT IT.

ALONE AND CAREFREE?
OH, DIDN'T YOU KNOW?
SHE BROKE OFF THE ENGAGEMENT THE VERY DAY OF THE WEDDING.
I THINK TRUE LOVE MAKES A PERSON BETTER.
BUT I'M GLAD IT TURNED OUT THAT WAY.
BECAUSE MY SISTER HAS BECOME MORE CHARMING THAN SHE WAS WHEN SHE WAS ENGAGED...
YOU SEEM VERY MATURE FOR YOUR AGE.
I'm speechless again
Hum-burger

MAMORU-KUN,
YOUR SISTER HASN'T CHANGED AT ALL.
SHE IS NOT CUTE.
It should have started by now
Kousuke's screaming
If you are going, then go.
Why don't you stand up?
If you aren't going, then best to go home.
STUPID! I AM A MAN! I HAVE MY PRIDE!
MAYBE IF YOU SAY "COME BACK" AND CRY...
BUT YOU ARE NOT VERY POPULAR.

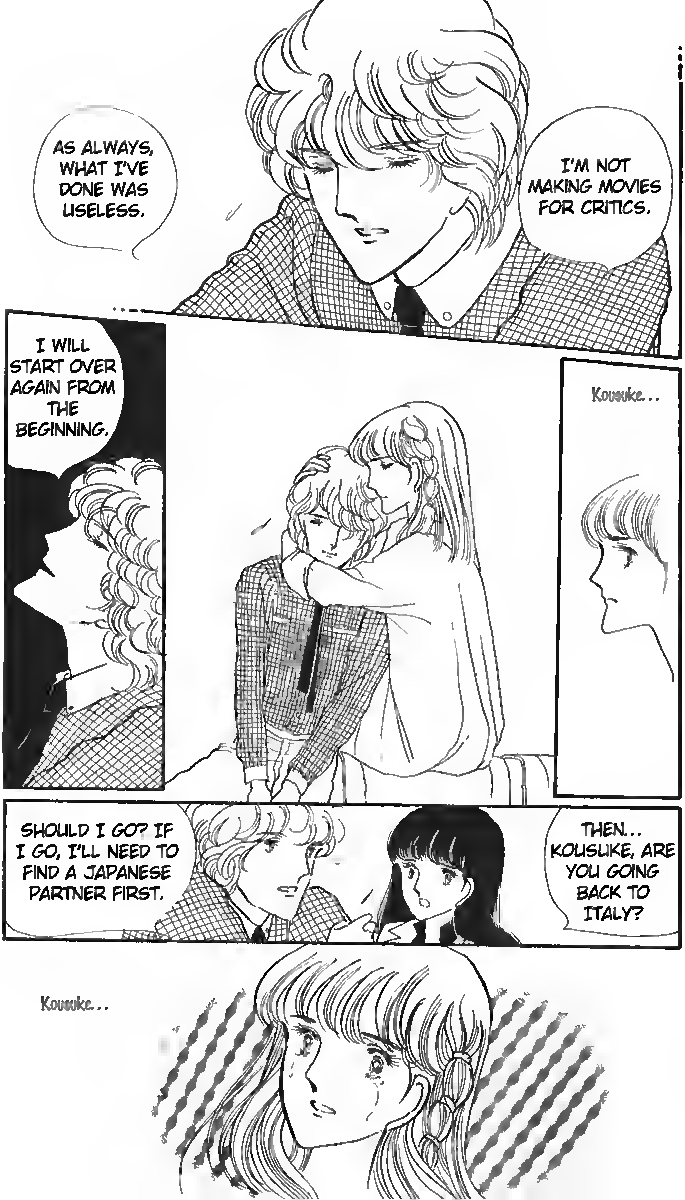
Men and women...
mustn't guard themselves
against this thing
called love.
Pride...?
Back then, Kousuke tried to say it to me...
Like those building blocks...
So it was pride.
I was blinded by pride.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING, NAKAAKI-SAN?
I'M LEAVING EARLY TODAY.
clatter
Thanks to my stubbornness and my dull pride...
I will miss Kousuke again
HOW STRANGE SHE IS A WORKAHOLIC..
I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED.
TO KYOUDOU MEETING HALL!
I DON'T MIND. HURRY!
TRAFFIC IS HEAVY GOING THAT WAY.

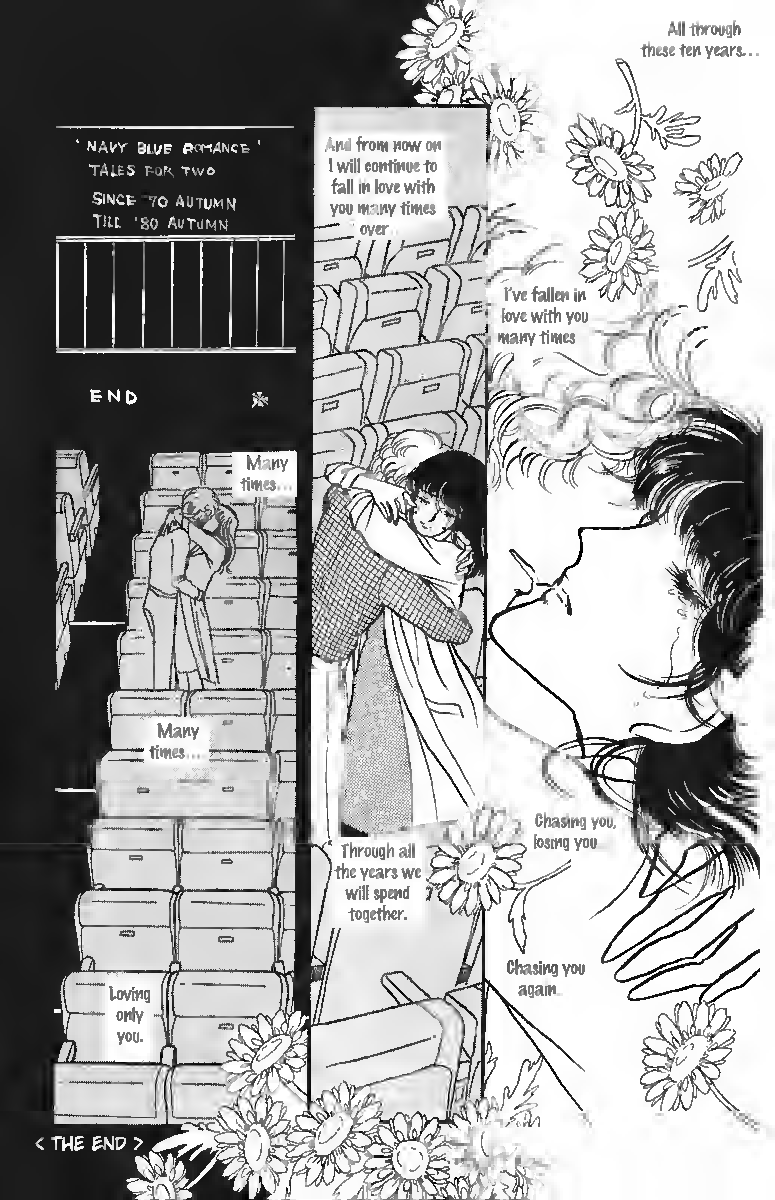
Now is my only chance to end this never-ending cycle of misunderstandings.
Wait ...
Wait for me, Kousuke...
HERE WE ARE.
THANKS.
EXCUSE ME, WHERE IS THE SCREENING?
tap tap tap
IT FINISHED A WHILE AGO.
EVERY-BODY HAS LEFT ALREADY...

I couldn't end the cycle .
I'm too late_
STUPID KOUSUKE.
I CAME RUNNING JUST TO SAY ONE THING TO YOU.
YOU COULDN'T WAIT FOR TEN MINUTES?
WELL, I MADE SUCH AN EFFORT TO COME AND SAY IT, SO I WILL SAY IT, EVEN IF I'M HERE ALONE.
I HAVE REALLY LIKED YOU, ALL THESE TEN YEARS, KOUSUKE.
KOUSUKE... I LOVE YOU.
I LOVE YOU.
ONLY YOU, KOUSUKE.

STUPID KOUSUKE!!
WHO'S THE STUPID ONE?!
WHAT ABOUT YOU? YOU QUICKLY RAN AWAY AFTER YOU TOLD ME YOU WERE GOING TO MARRY.
KOU-SUKE!
IT WAS SO HARD TO FIND THE PEACE OF MIND TO MEDITATE...
YOU?
AH, BUT THE SCREENING WAS A SUCCESS, RIGHT?
EXCEPT FOR THE CRITICS, EVERYONE LEFT LOOKING LIKE THEY WERE AT A LOSS.


AS ALWAYS, WHAT I'VE DONE WAS USELESS.
I'M NOT MAKING MOVIES FOR CRITICS.
I WILL START OVER AGAIN FROM THE BEGINNING.
Kousuke...
SHOULD I GO? IF I GO, I'LL NEED TO FIND A JAPANESE PARTNER FIRST.
THEN... KOUSUKE, ARE YOU GOING BACK TO ITALY?
Kousuke...

IF YOU TELL ME NOW THAT YOU ARE GOING TO MARRY AGAIN OR SOMETHING...
IF YOU REALLY WALK AWAY AGAIN...
I WON'T MAKE THE [illegible]E MISTAKE TWICE
KOU-SUKE...
KOU-SUKE...
ATALANTA.
THE TEARS OF A GIRL WHO RARELY CRIES... THEY ARE VERY MEANINGFUL.
THANKS TO THEM, I C[illegible]LIGHT...


All through these ten years...
'NAVY BLUE ROMANCE'
TALES FOR TWO
SINCE '70 AUTUMN
TILL '80 AUTUMN
END
And from now on I will continue to fall in love with you many times over...
I've fallen in love with you many times
Many times...
Many times...
Loving only you.
Through all the years we will spend together.
Chasing you, losing you...
Chasing you again...
< THE END >

Aiiro Shinwa Chapter 4

Translated by Otohime

Edited by Jc

Proofread by Maris

QC by Otohime

Barcarolle
http://barcarolles.wordpress.com/

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The Barcardle Team

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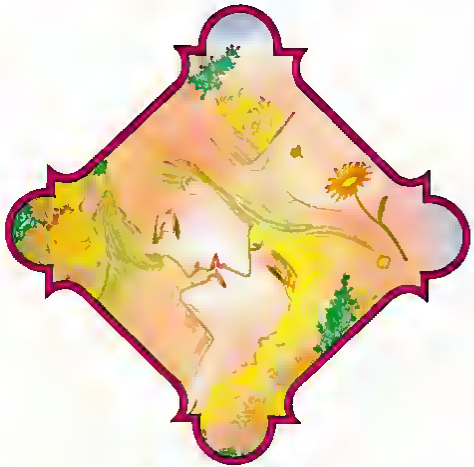
♡あい色，藍色，愛の色——。とまどい，悩み，ひたむきに生きようとする青春時代。桂子と洪介の鮮烈な出会いは，そんな16さいのころ。そして，10年の歳月が流れ，ひかれあい，求めあいながらもすれちがうふたつの心は……。



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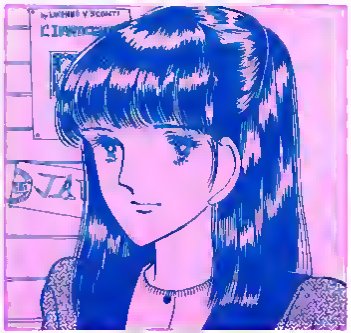
大和和紀先生のサイン

♥あい色、藍色、愛の色——。とまどい悩み、なおひたむきに生きようとする青春時代。桂子と洪介の鮮烈な出会いは、そんな16さいのころ。そして、10年の歳月が流れる中で、ひかれあい、求めあいながらもすれちがうふたつの心は……。



〈装幀／水野石文〉

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